1	UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT		
2	WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON AT TACOMA		
3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14	UGOCHUKWO GOODLUCK NWAUZOR, et al., Plaintiffs, V. THE GEO GROUP, INC., Defendant. Plaintiff, V. THE GEO GROUP, INC., Defendant. Plaintiff, V. THE GEO GROUP, INC., Plaintiff, Defendant.		
24	VERBATIM REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS BEFORE THE HONORABLE ROBERT J. BRYAN UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE Proceedings stenographically reported and transcribed With computer-aided technology		
23 24 25			

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—Angela Nicolavo - Court Reporter - 1717 Pacific Ave, Tacoma, WA - 253-882-3832–

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MORNING SESSION

JUNE 10, 2021

(The following occurred outside the presence of the jury.)

THE CLERK: I am going to let everybody in now, the attorneys.

Good morning, counsel. Looks like we have Mr. Gard on standby in the waiting room, ready to go.

THE COURT: Mr. Whitehead, you are blue like Ms. Mell today, but not quite a match. It is complementary colors anyway.

Are we all ready to go this morning?

MS. CHIEN: Your Honor, we have a couple preliminary issues that we wanted to flag for the Court. First, on a scheduling issue, our building is having a fire alarm at 10:15. If at all possible, that might be a good time for a break because we have to evacuate our building.

Second, we want to have hopefully a conference outside the presence of the jury regarding the L&I witnesses that GEO seeks to offer testimony on, which is all to testify in a backdoor way of getting around the Court's order dismissing their laches defense, their unclean hands defense, their statute of limitations defense, and this Court's order excluding exhibits regarding internal emails.

So I don't know when you would like to do that, have that conference, but we want to flag that before the L&I witnesses

are identified and testify. 1 2 THE COURT: Let's go with what we've got, and when it's time to make a motion or whatever, we'll deal with it. 3 MS. CHIEN: Okay. Thank you. 4 MR. POLOZOLA: Your Honor, I have one more brief 5 issue the parties had discussed. At the beginning of trial, 6 you asked the parties to consider how the admitted facts 7 should come in. We have discussed this, and the plaintiffs have uploaded as Exhibit 609 the admitted facts which the 9 parties have agreed to. So we would request that the Court 10 place Exhibit 609 in the file, or in the record. 11 THE COURT: Well, I take it you are offering an 12 exhibit? 13 MR. POLOZOLA: Correct, Your Honor. 14 15 THE COURT: I saw that this morning. Aren't those agreed facts rather than admitted facts? 16 17 MR. POLOZOLA: They are agreed facts. The parties have added, to streamline issues, facts to which each side 18 has admitted, Your Honor. 19

THE COURT: Should not the exhibit call them "agreed facts" rather than "admitted facts"?

20

21

22

23

24

25

MR. POLOZOLA: We can certainly update it to say "agreed facts," Your Honor and re-upload it as Exhibit 609. We just wanted to bring it to the Court's attention that we had discussed the issue and that would be our proposed

approach.

THE COURT: Okay. Anything else on that?

MR. SILVERMAN: Not on that, Your Honor, but I have

4 one procedural question.

THE COURT: Wait a minute. One thing at a time.

MS. SCHEFFEY: Your Honor, I want to make sure we have the right copy. As long as it is everything we discussed before, we can upload it.

THE COURT: I think the exhibit should be called agreed facts rather than admissions. So I would entertain the admissibility of that exhibit when that is changed on the cover page and on the next page. It appears twice. Change the word from "admitted" to "agreed" in two places. And with that change, that may be admitted, but I will need to tell the jury that it is admitted.

MR. POLOZOLA: Certainly. We will get that corrected and uploaded and we will, of course, copy you, Adrienne and team, so that you are aware.

Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: What else? Now, Mr. Silverman, you had something?

MR. SILVERMAN: Yes, Your Honor. I just wanted to note that the State has indicated this is their last witness and then we are going to make our Rule 50 DV motion.

In terms of the Court's preference for the logistics of

```
that, if we were in Court I would walk up and I would hand up
 1
 2
    a copy while making our argument. What's the Court's
 3
    preference in terms of the logistics of how you would like us
    to proceed with our Rule 50 motion?
 4
 5
             THE COURT: It makes some sense to me if you wait
    until both plaintiffs rest.
 6
 7
             MR. SILVERMAN:
                             Okay. Is there an additional witness
 8
    that the private plaintiffs are putting on after Mr. Gard?
 9
             THE COURT:
                         I don't know. Nobody has rested yet.
             MR. SILVERMAN: Once we move, I don't want to waste
10
    jury time. What is your preference in terms of me making the
11
    Rule 50 motion into the record so we cannot -- so they can go
12
    out and do what they are going to do?
13
             THE COURT: Just do it like you are in court.
14
15
             MR. SILVERMAN:
                             Okay.
             THE COURT: If you have something you want me to
16
17
    read, file it in whatever way we get it, just like every
    other document.
18
                             Thank you, Your Honor.
             MR. SILVERMAN:
19
             THE COURT: Anything else preliminary?
20
        Bring in the jury and the witness, Mr. Gard.
21
22
             THE CLERK: They are on their way in, Your Honor.
         (The following occurred in the presence of the jury.)
23
             MS. SCHEFFEY:
                            May I proceed?
24
25
             THE CLERK: We are still waiting on one juror.
                                                              There
```

```
Now all the jurors are all present.
1
   we go.
           Okay.
```

- 2 THE COURT: Where is Mr. Gard? There you are. Okay.
- You are right in front of me. I didn't see you, Mr. Gard. 3
- I believe the State had finished its direct All right. 4
- 5 testimony.

- MR. POLOZOLA: Correct, Your Honor. 6
- 7 THE COURT: Go to cross-examination.

CROSS-EXAMINATION

- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 9
- Mr. Gard, thank you for coming back today. I wanted to 10
- clarify a few things with you. You have never worked for the 11
- Northwest ICE Processing Center, correct? 12
- Never worked for who? Sorry. 13 Α
- The Northwest ICE Processing Center. 14 Q
- 15 Α No. I never have.
- You have no firsthand knowledge of the operations of the 16
- 17 voluntary work program at that facility, correct?
- I do not. Α 18
- You are not a former detainee of that facility, right? Q 19
- 20 Α I am not.
- You work at the Employment Security Division, correct? 21 Q
- 22 Α Employment Security Department, yes.
- 23 Does your department help track how many unemployed
- individuals there are in Tacoma? 24
- Through the unemployment roles, Employment Security does 25 Α

```
Gard - Cross-Examination
```

- track how many people are unemployed and what -- through 1
- 2 sectors as well, I believe. That piece is above me so...
- Do you know if the unemployment division counts 3 Q
- individuals at the Northwest ICE Processing Center as 4
- unemployed? 5
- I have no direct knowledge of that. 6
- Do you have any knowledge of who is included generally in 7 Q
- the unemployment bucket when they say someone is unemployed?
- Individuals who have filed for unemployment. 9
- Do you have any knowledge about whether your agency as a 10
- state government entity is required to buy its office 11
- equipment from correctional industries? 12
- I know we have office equipment that comes from 13
- correctional industries, but I don't know what the contract 14
- 15 is.
- Some of your office equipment in your office where you 16
- 17 work comes from correctional industries, correct?
- It does. Α 18
- MR. POLOZOLA: Your Honor, I would object. This is 19
- well beyond the scope of what Mr. Gard testified to. 20
- I think it is beyond the scope. 21 THE COURT:
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 22
- You testified vesterday you have helped people in the 23
- restaurant and hospitality industries find jobs, correct? 24
- 25 Α That is correct.

- Does the hospitality industry typically include prisons 1
- and detention centers? 2
- I can't directly answer that. To me, I guess the 3
- hospitality is hotels, motels, anybody that would employ the 4
- types of occupations that I was asked about yesterday. 5
- When you think of the hospitality industry, you 6 Q
- don't think of prisons, right? 7
- Prison does not immediately come to my mind when I think
- of hospitality.
- What about the restaurant industry? When you think of the 10 Q
- restaurant industry, do you immediately think of detention 11
- centers? 12
- No. I don't. 13
- You testified yesterday that you typically pair custodial 14
- workers with hotels, hospitals and local schools as we just 15
- discussed; is that right? 16
- 17 Yes, that is correct.
- In your experience, do local hotels typically require a 18
- government security clearance for custodians? 19
- 20 Α No.
- What about hospitals? 21 O
- 22 Security clearance, no. There is a limit to the
- 23 individuals that can work in that. For instance, reentry,
- those that have been formally incarcerated, things like that, 24
- individuals of that nature. 25

- You are saying people who have been formally incarcerated 1
- cannot work in hospitals? 2
- May not due to background. Not security clearance, but 3 Α
- background. 4
- 5 In your personal experience with the people you have
- worked with, how many of them have had trouble finding a 6
- 7 position because of their background?
- We see reentry people on a regular basis, just as
- involved. I couldn't give you a number.
- Is it more than half or less than half of the dozens of 10 Q
- people you have worked with? 11
- Less than half. 12
- Those people typically have criminal records, correct? 13 Q
- If they are justice involved, they would have criminal 14
- records, yes. 15
- If they applied for a government security clearance that 16
- 17 required them not to have a criminal record, they couldn't
- meet those requirements, correct? 18
- MR. POLOZOLA: Objection, foundation, Your Honor. 19
- THE COURT: Sustained. 20
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 21
- 22 You testified you see people by appointment or walk in who
- are seeking jobs; is that correct? 23
- That is correct. 24 Α
- 25 Q Have you ever gone to the Northwest ICE Processing Center

```
to try and help place detainees in jobs?
```

- 2 A I have not.
- 3 Q What about the Special Commitment Center on McNeil Island?
- 4 A I have not.
- 5 Q What about the local jails and prisons?
- 6 A We have had a presence from Employment Security Department
- 7 at the local jail.
- 8 Q Is that to help them with correctional industries?
- 9 MR. POLOZOLA: Objection, Your Honor, scope again.
- THE COURT: He may answer.
- THE WITNESS: Could you repeat the question?
- 12 BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
- 13 | Q Is that to help them with correctional industries?
- 14 A No, it is to help them find employment on release or
- 15 | shortly after release.
- 16 Q You testified that you tried to find people a living wage
- job yesterday. Do you remember that?
- 18 A I do.
- 19 Q A living wage job is one that would pay for an
- 20 individual's food, housing, clothing and other basic
- 21 necessities, right?
- 22 A Yes.
- 23 | Q You also testified that if 85 new jobs became available in
- 24 | Tacoma, you would not be surprised because that would be a
- low number right now. Do you remember that?

```
1 A I do.
```

- 2 Q Isn't it true that in Washington, there is currently a
- 3 shortage of workers willing to fill service industry jobs?
- 4 A We are finding there is a low census of workers, yes.
- 5 | Q When you say "low census of workers," are you saying there
- 6 are more jobs than there are job seekers?
- $7 \mid A$ That is what I am saying.
- 8 Q So the people that you help -- you talked about helping
- 9 dozens of people. Do you remember that?
- 10 A I do.
- 11 | Q The people you help, they are typically receiving
- 12 unemployment benefits, correct?
- 13 A That is not accurate. We serve everybody.
- 14 Q Do you help people who are receiving unemployment
- 15 benefits?
- 16 A We do.
- 17 | Q Some of the dozens of people that you have helped who are
- 18 receiving unemployment benefits have an obligation to look
- 19 | for work, correct?
- 20 A Not at this time.
- 21 Q Not at this time?
- 22 A The job search is waived for this period of time during
- 23 | COVID. In typical times, they would be required to look for
- 24 three jobs each week, or three job search activities.
- 25 | Q So prior to COVID, you helped people who had to look for

```
Gard - Cross-Examination
    work as part of receiving their unemployment benefits?
 1
 2
        That is correct.
        Before someone receives unemployment benefits, you verify
 3
     their immigration status through the Systematic Alien
 4
    Verification for Entitlement, or SAVE interface, correct?
 5
                            Objection, scope and foundation, Your
             MR. POLOZOLA:
 6
 7
    Honor.
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Your Honor, these are the people he
 8
     testified that he helps. That's the basis of his testimony.
 9
             THE COURT: Wait a minute. I think he may answer.
10
             THE WITNESS: Could you repeat the question?
11
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
12
        Before someone receives unemployment benefits, you verify
13
    their immigration status through the SAVE interface, correct?
14
15
        That is done outside of my scope of work so I can't answer
     directly to that.
16
17
        Do you know what the SAVE interface does?
        I am not familiar with that. Are you saying save,
18
    S-A-V-E?
19
        Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements.
        I am not familiar with that. It is outside my scope of
```

- 20
- 2.1
- 22 work.
- 23 Are you aware of anyone at the Northwest ICE Processing
- Center that has received unemployment benefits? 24
- Same objection, scope, Your Honor. 25 MR. POLOZOLA:

```
THE COURT:
                        He may answer.
 1
 2
             THE WITNESS: I don't recall assisting directly
 3
    anybody from the immigration center.
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
 4
        If COVID was not waiving the job seeking requirement,
 5
    would someone who was detained at the Northwest ICE
 6
 7
    Processing Center be able to meet the job search requirement
    if there is no employment in the place where they are
    detained?
        Somebody who is detained, period, is not eligible for
10
    unemployment benefits. Is that what you are asking me?
11
        I was asking something along those lines. I think that is
12
             Do you know, sitting here today, what the deficit
13
    close.
14
    between job seekers and jobs is in the food service industry?
15
        I do not.
             MS. SCHEFFEY: No further questions. Thank you.
16
17
             THE COURT: Redirect, counsel?
             MR. POLOZOLA: Briefly, Your Honor.
18
                         REDIRECT EXAMINATION
19
    BY MR. POLOZOLA:
20
        Mr. Gard, thank you for coming back this morning. We did
21
22
    speak yesterday about how you have personally helped job
23
    seekers in Tacoma and Pierce County who are looking for work;
    is that correct?
24
25
    Α
        That is correct.
```

- You said you have helped job seekers that have looked for 1
- 2 work as custodians, cooks and dishwashers, laundry workers
- and barbers; is that correct? 3
- That is correct. Α 4
- Now, counsel just asked you some questions about work 5
- authorization and background checks, correct? 6
- Uh-huh. 7 Α
- You serve everyone who is looking for work in Tacoma,
- right?
- MS. SCHEFFEY: Objection, leading. Still his 10
- witness. 11
- THE COURT: The question was leading in form. 12
- BY MR. POLOZOLA: 13
- As a work force supervisor, who does your team serve? 14
- 15 Our team serves anybody in the State of Washington. I
- like to say that if you have a beating heart, we will help 16
- 17 you.
- Have you been successful in helping individuals in Tacoma 18
- and Pierce County find work? 19
- We have. 20 Α
- What impact, if any, would it have on your work and the 21
- 22 job seekers you serve if there were more jobs available in
- 23 the areas such as custodians, cooks and dishwashers and
- barbers? 24
- 25 It would have a great impact. We welcome any employment

```
opportunity to connect our job seekers to those employment
 1
 2
    opportunities.
 3
             MR. POLOZOLA:
                            Thank you. No further questions.
             MS. SCHEFFEY: One follow up question, Your Honor.
 4
                          RECROSS-EXAMINATION
 5
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
 6
 7
        You just testified that --
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Following up.
 8
             THE COURT: I'm sorry. Don't get used to going
 9
    beyond one cross and one direct from each party. What is
10
    your question now, Ms. Scheffey?
11
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
12
        Mr. Gard, you just testified that it would have a great
13
    impact on your job seekers if there were more jobs, correct?
14
        Yes.
15
    Α
        You don't know what the deficit is right now sitting here
16
17
    today between job seekers and jobs?
        I could not tell you how many job seekers there are out
18
    there to employment opportunities, no.
19
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Thank you. That's it.
20
             THE COURT: Well, I will withhold my comments and
21
22
    excuse Mr. Gard. Thank you.
23
             THE WITNESS: Thank you.
             THE COURT: Okay. Next witness.
24
             MR. POLOZOLA: Your Honor, the State has no further
25
```

```
witnesses.
 1
 2
             THE COURT: All right. Mr. Whitehead.
             MR. WHITEHEAD: Your Honor, private plaintiffs have
 3
    no further witnesses. We would offer -- I hope it has been
 4
    uploaded at this time -- Exhibit 609.
 5
             MR. POLOZOLA: I believe we are working on that right
 6
    now, counsel. Your Honor, it will go in shortly.
 7
             MS. SCHEFFEY: I need a minute.
             THE COURT: Let me explain that to the jury. Exhibit
 9
    609 is a list of the agreed facts that the parties have
10
    agreed to in this case. That exhibit may be admitted.
                                                             It is
11
    the same list that I read to the entire jury panel during my
12
    introduction to the case. 609 may be admitted.
13
        I take it now both plaintiffs rest; is that correct?
14
15
                     (Exhibit 609 was admitted.)
             MR. WHITEHEAD: That is correct, Your Honor.
16
17
             MR. POLOZOLA: That is correct, Your Honor. Thank
    you.
18
             MS. SCHEFFEY:
                           Lane, can you send me a copy of what
19
    we are admitting?
20
21
             MR. POLOZOLA: It is in the Box right now. Adrienne,
    if you can access our folder, it is there.
22
             THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, I am going to give
23
    you a break here. I have to hear some matters related to the
24
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law in the case. Take a break, and hopefully this won't take

25

```
long and we will be back with you soon.
```

(The following occurred outside the presence of the jury.)

THE COURT: Mr. Silverman.

MR. SILVERMAN: Thank you, Your Honor.

At this point, the defendant moves for a directed verdict on the jury counts of involuntary dismissal, on the non-jury counts under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 50.

A brief is being -- I presume has been filed in the last minute on that. So Tyler, if you want to print that out as it comes across the wire.

The brief is fairly exhaustive. I will just hit each of the elements, and we will go from there.

In addition, we have already moved, pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 23, to decertify the class. We believe, again, parallel to the Rule 50 requirements, that the requirements of Rule 23 -- typicality, adequacy, commonality and preponderance -- are established to be inadequate as it pertains to the one remaining named plaintiff, Mr. Nwauzor, as to the entire class.

Let me go through the Rule 50 arguments. Like I said, we filed it as well. Your Honor, it should be appearing on your screen momentarily. No. 1 -- some of these are preservation arguments. Obviously, it is Rule 50. We need to go through this.

No. 1, we had pointed out most specifically in the Fourth

Circuit case in *Ndambi* that under federal law the standards for the determination of whether a detainee can be considered an employee, that three-part test, which we believe the evidence clearly shows the evidence cannot be interpreted any way other than finding that the detainees are not employees.

Under the modified economic dependence test applicable to detention, which again we have also briefed, the question of whether the detainee is working to turn a profit for GEO, whether the detainee and GEO have an opportunity for a bargain for mutual economic gain, and whether GEO provides the detainee with food, shelter and clothing that employees would otherwise need to purchase in a true employment situation, that the evidence cannot be reasonably interpreted in any other way other than to find that the detainees are not employees.

Under that, then that leads to the third version of "are you an employee," which is the modified *Anfison* test that the Court had considered and had put in some of the tentative jury instructions, the nine-part test. You know, we have briefed that at some length. Again, as noted in *Anfison* and others, the nine-part jury test, which is the nature and control of the detainees by GEO. They are in custody. They are constantly under GEO's control. That factor has little or no weight.

The degree of supervision, indirect or direct, of work by

detainees. They are always supervised, so that element has little to no weight.

Whether GEO has the power to determine pay rates and the method of payment. As noted in great detail, the rate is confirmed and set under contract between ICE and GEO.

D, whether GEO had the right directly or indirectly to hire, fire or modify the employment conditions. As you have heard, GEO is required to offer the VWP position to every detainee regardless of their prior experience or skill. You never heard of a single detainee who was actually terminated from the program. Spent a lot of time arguing about the difference between termination from their post and firing from their job. You didn't hear a single detainee who was actually removed from the program.

E, whether GEO prepared payroll and the payments to detainees under VWP. Again, GEO doesn't perform payroll which involves calculating hours, withholding taxes and other amounts. The money goes into a trust account and then ICE reimburses.

Whether GEO provided all necessary equipment and supplies necessary for the VWP. They are in detention. That is the only way it can work. So that matter should have little or no weight.

The degree of permanence in the working relationship in the VWP. You heard from their expert. You heard the other

testimony, the average stay is about two months. Some can come and go within days. Detainees can and do decide not to show up, but nonetheless stay in the program. You heard from detainees who, in fact, provided decline to work forms and stayed in the program.

H, whether the service rendered by detainees through VWP is an integral part of GEO's business. GEO is in the business of providing secure detention. Detainees do not do that.

I, detainees' dependence upon GEO for income. This factor doesn't make sense in the detention context, which is why the Fourth Circuit ruled the way it did.

Under each of those elements, we believe that there is no reasonable possibility that a jury can find in any way that they are not employees.

I am going to raise a couple of the issues that the Court has previously declined to include in the instructions because we need to preserve them.

Detainees are not employees under the resident exception to the Washington Minimum Wage Act, and that detainees are not employees under the detainee exception to the Washington Minimum Wage Act. Again, you have seen briefing on that. We have reasserted those issues as well.

Finally, we get to the immunity defenses. GEO must be treated the same as the federal government for the purposes

of intergovernmental immunity. We briefed that. GEO is therefor entitled to intergovernmental immunity because the Washington Minimum Wage Act attempts to directly regulate the federal government. You have seen that briefing and we have put that forth in great detail.

GEO is entitled to the intergovernmental immunity because the Washington Minimum Wage Act discriminates against the federal government as set forth in that statute. The statute specifically exempts the State from the same kinds of services including corrections, detainee and whatever you want to call someone who is incarcerated. It doesn't apply to the State. It does apply to the federal government. It does apply to GEO.

Washington is entitled to -- GEO is entitled to derivative sovereign immunity. We briefed that. We just need to preserve that. Your Honor has not included that within the jury instructions. We have argued in the past, and therefore raise now that the Washington Minimum Wage Act is preempted by federal law under both express preemption and field preemption. You have seen that briefing. That is coming back. Again, that is contained in the brief that was provided to Your Honor.

There is a third concept known as conflict/obstacle preemption. We have raised that as well, and therefore want to preserve that as well.

So those are the arguments contained within the Rule 50 motion. Again, it is not clear under Rule 23 whether the motion as to decertify based on the evidence that is presented is a halftime motion in a trial because the prevailing cases seem to appear that the Court has the discretion to decertify at any moment prior to the entry of a final judgment.

But at this point, again, this is the point where you can see that what we have is solely Mr. Nwauzor. He is the only named plaintiff on the private plaintiffs' claims. He only worked in the pod, and he talked about that. So we spent the rest of that evidence regarding the need for the plaintiffs to put on additional witnesses to talk about what it's like in the laundry, what it's like in the kitchen, talking about the differences in the shift, how long they go, what the basis is. There is no named plaintiff for those.

Mr. Urbina, who was then removed as a named plaintiff, was a food porter, a totally different experience as well.

For all of those reasons, as set forth more fully in our Rule 50 motion, the defendants move the Court to, A, enter a directed verdict on the jury claims. B, to the extent that there are equitable claims that the Court has deemed non-jury, which we will decide later on, that an involuntary dismissal be entered as to those counts, and that the Court otherwise decertify the classes under Rule 23.

THE COURT: You have handed me a 27-page brief. I take these motions seriously. I obviously can't accurately rule on it or fairly rule on it without reading what you have presented.

You know, this whole case is, I would call it counterintuitive. That doesn't make it wrong. I think at this point the plaintiffs have raised issues on -- fact issues on all the necessary issues in the case to carry it forward. Before I rule finally on your motion, I will read what you presented.

In regard to decertifying the class, the motion was made and noted for the 18th. I have not seen the plaintiffs' response to it. I think it would be premature to rule on that issue at this point as well. The motion is reserved. We will proceed with the defense case.

MR. WHITEHEAD: Your Honor, I would only point out the motion for decertification has been re-noted for the 25th.

THE COURT: I didn't know that. Rachel did. She is signalling me that that's the case. As soon as I feel comfortable after reading everything, I will tell you further, but I don't want to keep the jury waiting while that gets done.

MS. CHIEN: Your Honor, unfortunately we would like to still have our conference regarding the L&I witnesses

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because I believe GEO's first witness is an L&I witness.
would like to renew our objections to this witness given that
the Court has already rejected GEO's defenses of laches and
statute of limitations and unclean hands, and has excluded
all of the exhibits which Tammy Fellin appears on. Calling
her as a witness is really a back door to getting evidence
that was excluded and defenses that were dismissed before the
      It is irrelevant, prejudicial and a waste of time.
        MS. MELL: Your Honor, may I address that when you
have the opportunity?
        THE COURT: Go ahead. I don't know where this is
       Go ahead, Ms. Mell.
going.
        MS. MELL: Your Honor, you mentioned that this case
is somewhat counterintuitive. That is exactly why we are
calling the State's witnesses, especially as it relates to
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MS. MELL: Your Honor, you mentioned that this case is somewhat counterintuitive. That is exactly why we are calling the State's witnesses, especially as it relates to the manner in which the State has addressed detention. There is a very specific instruction that you are authorizing GEO to defend on in this case. That is --

THE COURT: Wait a minute. Wait a minute. Those instructions were a discussion draft. They don't mean a thing.

MS. MELL: Okay.

THE COURT: You all were anxious to know what the instructions might look like, so I prepared a discussion draft for you. That's all it is.

Excuse me, counsel.

MS. MELL: All right. Not to attribute to you something you haven't made a final decision on. My apologies, Your Honor. It is what we have been working from, but it's also consistent with GEO's position and defense that we are here to show that GEO operates a governmental program for detainees. Detention is not employment. It is a distinct concept. It's a mutually exclusive concept from employment.

The evidence that we intend to put on through the State's witnesses is that even the State knows and addresses detention distinctly from employment.

Tammy Fellin, the next witness who will be called to testify, will testify that she's a policy official who has grappled with the issues of employment versus detention and has expressed the policy reasons why there is a distinction between detention and employment.

In opening and in examination of Mr. Scott, the plaintiffs have expressly opened the door to the documents the Court said were not per se admissible. But when I asked, "Does that mean I cannot get this whole history of the way the State has handled detention and how they have addressed whether or not the Minimum Wage Act is applicable to GEO or the detainees at the detention center," the Court expressly told me, "I am not saying that you can't get it in through

witness testimony."

Ms. Fellin will be one of those witnesses who, in response to the question put to Mr. Scott, "Is there a document that says the Minimum Wage Act does not apply to the GEO detainees," we'll be able to say, "Yes, there is," because I authored it and I published it to the Governor's office when there was an express inquiry by the very advocates who have put -- the plaintiffs have put a witness on from the Northwest Immigration Rights Project who has testified as their expert, whose organization lobbied the Governor's office in 2014 to enforce the Minimum Wage Act against GEO.

There was a whole flurry of email discussion and briefing and thought put into why would or wouldn't the State treat detainees in federal custody under the Minimum Wage Act as employees, and a policy determination was made expressly and expressly published to those advocates that it didn't apply.

MS. CHIEN: Your Honor, that is a misstatement.

There is no publication. There was an internal email within L&I and the Governor's office. There's nothing that went to GEO indicating there was a Minimum Wage Act determination by L&I.

L&I's discussion from 2014 -- internal discussions regarding 2014 were already excluded. What L&I thought in 2014 does not matter. That defense does not exist in this case. The Court dismissed laches, statute of limitations,

prosecutorial discretion, and excluded the emails that

Ms. Mell would like to come in through these witnesses.

MS. MELL: Your Honor, I was interrupted. I can read expressly from the emails. The email -- whether the email comes in or not, Ms. Fellin can say whether or not the Department treats detention, people in state custody or federal custody, as employees. She will say that. She does have an express provision that she says, "At least this way we will all know the Department's authority moving forward as to, do INS detainees fall under L&I's jurisdiction for wage and hour issues?" That wasn't an internal email. The State actually was asked and invited to come down and take a position on it for the advocates who were out in front of the detention center lobbying on whether or not the Governor would back them on minimum wage issues, and the Governor declined to do so in 2014. That's a whole policy position of the State on the difference between detention and employment.

It goes directly to our defenses of how does the State treat its detainees, does it discriminate when asked here to apply a different standard to GEO and its detainees.

The opening of the door cannot be underemphasized here.

On page 65 -- I am looking at the verbatim report of proceedings from Mr. Whitehead to the facility administrator -- "Is it your testimony that there is a document somewhere that says GEO has complied or does not

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need to comply with state minimum wage laws for the voluntary
 1
 2
    work program?
                   Is that your testimony?
        "Mr. Scott, I don't know anything about that, sir.
 3
                    Because if there was that sort of document, I
        "Question:
 4
 5
    mean, that's a document we would have seen by now at trial,
    would you agree?"
 6
 7
        He put that right in front of the jury. I have a right,
 8
    on behalf of GEO, to stand and up say, "Ms. Fellin, you know
    of such a document. You authored it. It's right here."
                         The existence of a document that was not
10
             MS. CHIEN:
    shared with GEO or the advocates that Ms. Mell is talking
11
    about is not relevant.
12
             THE COURT: Just a minute.
13
        You know, Ms. Mell, what you are asking for is a jury
14
15
    instruction that says the State has the right to change its
    mind, and the question is now -- the question we are trying
16
17
    in this case, it's not what the State's position might have
    been at some other time. I think you are --
18
             MS. MELL: Your Honor --
19
20
             THE COURT: -- barking up the wrong tree. It is not
    a defense. Wait a minute. Wait a minute.
21
                                                 I'm talking.
             MS. MELL: I'm sorry, Your Honor. My apologies.
22
             THE COURT: The exhibits that I saw on this subject,
23
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if I recall all of them, never amounted to a State policy

decision on this subject. That is why I was very reluctant,

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but didn't rule specifically pretrial on their admissibility.
 1
 2
        I don't want to tell you how to try your case.
 3
    you are barking up the wrong tree if you think the State
    can't change its mind. Particularly, if no policy was ever
 4
              I think we are on the verge of wasting a lot of
 5
    reached.
    time.
 6
        On the other hand, this is basically a late motion in
 7
    limine. I can rule better on things as they come up because
    it may be that this witness has some admissible testimony
    about some things relative to how the State treats its own
10
    detainees --
11
             MS. CHIEN: Your Honor --
12
             THE COURT: -- which is probably the only thing that
13
    she might have that is relevant to the issue in this case.
14
15
             MS. MELL:
                        Thank you for that clarification,
    Your Honor. I can work with that.
16
17
             MS. CHIEN: We think it is prejudicial to have any of
    the L&I witnesses discuss their thoughts on something --
18
             THE COURT:
                         Okay. Make an objection if they ask for
19
    that and we will rule on it.
20
             MS. CHIEN:
21
                         Okay.
22
             THE COURT:
                         I can't anticipate every question or
23
    possible answer.
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Okay. Thank you, Your Honor.
24
25
        I am going to have to call Ms. Fellin, Ms. Mell, so you
```

```
might have to give me a minute.
 1
 2
             MS. MELL: We have an issue with regard to the
    State's instructions on how to give the documents to the
 3
              It was my understanding we were supposed to be able
 4
    witness.
    to email. I have just been handed a note that somehow they
 5
    are thinking we need paper documents in Seattle. What's the
 6
    situation?
 7
             MR. POLOZOLA: I believe a member of your team asked
 8
    if documents could be sent by mail to Seattle. So perhaps
 9
    Mr. Silverman or Ms. Scheffey --
10
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Lane, we got a spreadsheet from Marsha
11
    that said, you know, these witnesses want paper, these want
12
    electronic. I believe it was Eisen and Sytsma who want
13
    paper, and everyone else was electronic. I gave Fellin
14
15
    electronic, so...
             MR. POLOZOLA: What is the issue?
16
17
             MS. SCHEFFEY: I don't know that there is one, if
    she's okay with electronic documents.
18
             MS. MELL: Did the State give us her email then?
19
    What is the email that she is supposed --
20
             MR. POLOZOLA: I believe she has the Box link.
21
22
             MS. MELL: Okay. She has Box? Okay. We can work
23
    with that, then. Sorry. We will call Ms. Fellin.
```

MS. CHIEN: Was there a question to me while I was

24

25

gone?

```
THE COURT:
                         No, I don't think so.
 1
 2
        Let's bring the jury in and go to work. Is the witness
 3
    present?
             THE CLERK:
                         The jurors are here, but we are waiting
 4
 5
    on the witness.
         (The following occurred in the presence of the jury.)
 6
             THE COURT: Ms. Fellin, if you would unmute your
 7
 8
     microphone. If you will raise your right hand and be sworn.
 9
                           TAMMY FELLIN,
        having been sworn under oath, testified as follows:
10
             THE COURT:
                         You may inquire.
11
                          DIRECT EXAMINATION
12
    BY MS. MELL:
13
        Good morning, Ms. Fellin.
14
    Q
15
    Α
        Good morning.
        Can you tell me your position? You work for the State of
16
17
    Washington, correct?
        I do. I am the legislative director for the Department of
18
     Labor & Industries, so the Department's lobbyist.
19
        You are an employee, correct?
20
        I am, yes.
21
    Α
22
        As a legislative director, it is your job to interface
23
    with legislative officials, elected officials on L&I's
    position on enforcing public policies, correct?
24
        Yes, it is my role to represent the Department with
25
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elected officials in general.
1
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- 2 Another population in the State of Washington who you work
- with, with some regularity and it is your duty to work with, 3
- are stakeholders, people that have an interest in what the 4
- Department of Labor & Industries does and how it enforces 5
- State policy, correct? 6
- I do also work with external stakeholders who 7
- represent the Department with them.
- And you work with the Governor's office, correct?
- Yes, I do. 10 Α
- Your position is appointed? 11 Q
- Yes, I am appointed by the Director, yes. 12
- The Director is appointed by the Governor? 13 Q
- Yes. 14 Α
- The Governor is the elected executive officer of the State 15
- of Washington, correct? 16
- 17 Α Yes.
- You would agree that your position is pretty political, 18
- right? 19
- MS. CHIEN: Objection, leading. 20
- THE COURT: Overruled. 21
- BY MS. MELL: 22
- 23 You may answer, Ms. Fellin. Did you understand the
- question? 24
- I understood you to be asking if my position was 25

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36
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political, yes.
1
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- When I say that, I mean if you step in it and take a wrong 2
- 3 political position, your job could be at risk, right?
- I am an appointed position so, yes, there is all sorts of 4
- 5 reasons why my job could be at risk. Sure.
- And what you find when you are in that position is that 6
- there is a whole bunch of opinions on a whole bunch of issues 7
- that you may not always see what the position is before there
- is a public discussion about it, correct?
- Objection, relevance. 10 MS. CHIEN:
- THE COURT: She may answer. 11
- THE WITNESS: I am not entirely sure I understand the 12
- question, though. If you could restate. 13
- BY MS. MELL: 14
- 15 Well, as a lobbyist for the Department of Labor &
- Industries, has it been your experience that little things 16
- 17 that you didn't think were controversial, all of a sudden
- become quite controversial? 18
- It is not always possible to predict how people will 19
- react for sure. 20
- 21 It is your job in that position to make your Director
- 22 looks good, correct?
- Sure, and to represent the Department, yes. 23
- In a way that is consistent with the policy objectives set 24 Q
- 25 by the legislature that the Governor and executive branch

```
then enforces, correct?
1
```

- 2 Sure. Yes.
- Okay. And so in your position, you have had the 3
- experience of dealing with a variety of issues that are 4
- unique to the Labor & Industries, correct? 5
- Yes, that would be correct. 6
- So you know I worked on the Hill and am familiar with 7
- policy issues, right?
- I didn't know you had worked on the Hill, no.
- When we talk about "the Hill" and "lobbying," what does 10
- that mean? 11
- In this context, means most of my time is spent with the 12
- legislature during session. I am often on the capitol campus 13
- where the legislature normally convenes. That wasn't the 14
- 15 case this year. That is what I mean by "the Hill," yes.
- And so one of the things you do for the Department of 16
- 17 Labor & Industries is you are the communication person on
- request legislation, so if the Department wants to move a 18
- particular piece of legislation or get the policy of the 19
- 20 State of Washington changed, you are the spokesperson for
- that, correct? 21
- 22 Α Yes.
- 23 The Governor's office communicates back with you, and you
- use the resources of your agency to figure out what the right 24
- position is on a particular issue affecting L&I, correct? 25

```
MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, leading and relevance.
 1
 2
             THE COURT:
                         The objection is overruled.
 3
             THE WITNESS:
                           In my role, yes, I am the spokesperson
    for the Department on issues that the legislature is
 4
 5
    considering.
    BY MS. MELL:
 6
 7
        Part of that spokesperson role relates, in part, to
    carrying out the policy objectives set by the Governor's
 8
    office and the agency via request legislation, correct?
 9
10
        That is one way, yes. The Department is -- does usually
    have an agency request legislation that we move forward.
11
    do work closely with the Governor's office to make sure we
12
    are consistent in the -- in the types of the requests we
13
    bring forward, yes.
14
15
        Okay. So with regard to the kinds of requests that you
    bring forward, the kinds of requests that you bring forward
16
17
    you want to make sure are consistent with the objectives of
    the Department of Labor & Industries, correct?
18
        When you say "requests," do you mean agency requests,
19
    bills that we seek to bring forward?
20
        Actually, that brings up a good point. There is a whole
21
22
    bunch of ways that you in your position make sure that what
    the legislature does or what the Governor's office does is
23
    consistent with the objectives of Labor & Industry, correct?
24
```

I am struggling because we don't -- we don't control what

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the legislature or the Governor's office brings forward.
1
```

- 2 That's my hesitation. I am not -- I represent the
- Department. There is a lot of issues that come forward that 3
- are not things the Department chooses to pursue or initiate. 4
- Right, but if they do have an issue they want to pursue, 5
- request legislation is the way they do it? 6
- 7 Request legislation is the way the Department would do it,
- 8 yes.
- With regard to the Department of Labor & Industries, for 9
- 10 those on the jury who are not a policy wonk like you and me
- or working the Hill by experience --11
- THE COURT: Just a minute. Ms. Mell, your background 12
- is not relevant to your questioning of this witness or any 13
- witness. Leave your own experience out of it and just ask 14
- 15 the questions.
- MS. MELL: Okay. All right. 16
- 17 BY MS. MELL:
- So the Department of Labor & Industries, just so we 18
- understand what that means, is an agency that is basically a 19
- labor agency. Its focus is employment, correct? 20
- Our focus is workplace safety and rights, so we 21
- 22 administer the elevator programs, we do elevator inspections,
- we do the workers' comp program, we do safety and health. 23
- obviously do the wage and hour, so like minimum wage, 24
- 25 questions around overtime. Plumbing. If a person wants to

```
hire a plumber, we license plumbers. We do a whole variety
 1
 2
    of things. It is workplace safety. Our mission is to keep
    Washington safe and working.
 3
        Is it correct that L&I is a diverse agency dedicated to
 4
    the safety, health and security of Washington's 3.3 million
 5
    workers?
 6
        Yeah.
 7
        Is it correct you understand that that 3.3 million workers
    does not include those individuals who are in the detention
    of the State or custody of the State, correct?
10
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection. Objection.
11
             THE COURT: She may answer.
12
             THE WITNESS: I think it would depend on the program
13
    that would be included.
14
    BY MS. MELL:
15
        When you say "program," are you talking about the multiple
16
17
    divisions the Department has?
        I am thinking more in terms of the specific program.
18
    Would it be a Paid Family Medical Leave issue, would it be a
19
    workers' comp issue, would it be a plumber issue? I mean,
20
    there is a whole variety of different programs and different
21
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As a general rule, though, the Department of Labor &

Industries does not treat the individuals who are in the

custody of the State as employees?

22

23

24

25

applications.

```
MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, foundation.
 1
    BY MS. MELL:
 2
        Or covered worker, right?
 3
    Q
             THE COURT: That's now two questions. The second one
 4
    came after the objection. The objection is sustained. Ask a
 5
    single question.
 6
    BY MS. MELL:
 7
        So as a general rule, the Department of Labor & Industries
    doesn't count in its 3.3 million workers those individuals
    who are in State custody, for instance, in the Department of
10
    Corrections and held involuntarily?
11
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, foundation.
12
             THE COURT: She may answer, if she can.
13
             THE WITNESS: I think that is a question I would
14
    confer with the policy experts of the Department.
15
    BY MS. MELL:
16
17
        Do you -- with regard to the State's -- let's make it
    specific to programs. One of the divisions in the Department
18
    of Labor & Industries is specific to employment standards,
19
20
    correct, wage and hour issues?
        One of our programs is, yes.
21
    Α
22
        Okay. It is not a division, it is a program?
23
        Right. Not a division. The division that it is part of
```

is the fraud and labor standards division, fraud protection

24

25

and labor standards.

```
Q
       Labor standards is a broad umbrella part of Department of
1
```

- 2 Labor & Industries that deals with employment, correct?
- 3 Α Yes, generally, yes.
- One of those programs within that division is ensuring 4
- that the 3.3 million workers in Washington get minimum wages? 5
- Right. Yes, one of those programs within the fraud 6
- division has within its purview wage and hour issues, 7
- including minimum wage.
- Specific to its enforcement of the Minimum Wage Act, the 9
- 3.3 million workers that it does not protect are those people 10
- in the custody of the State of Washington, correct? 11
- MS. CHIEN: Objection, foundation. 12
- THE COURT: She may answer, if she knows. 13
- THE WITNESS: It is a question I would confer with 14
- 15 the program staff in order to answer. I think there would be
- all sorts of variations to respond to that kind of a 16
- 17 question.
- BY MS. MELL: 18
- You did consult with agency staff back in 2014 on that 19
- 20 issue --
- Objection. 21 MS. CHIEN:
- BY MS. MELL: 22
- 23 -- for detention, didn't you?
- MS. CHIEN: Objection, relevance. 24
- 25 THE COURT: The objection is sustained.

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Fellin - Direct
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BY MS. MELL:
 1
 2
        Have you had any experience working at the Department of
    Labor & Industries where you have learned that the people who
 3
    are in the custody of the State of Washington are expressly
 4
    exempt from the Minimum Wage Act?
 5
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, foundation.
 6
 7
             THE COURT: Restate the question. You are asking for
    her experience on an isolated thing. The objection to that
 8
    is sustained.
    BY MS. MELL:
10
        Has it been your experience with the Department of Labor &
11
    Industries that there is an exemption for people in State
12
    custody with regard to the Minimum Wage Act?
13
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, foundation.
14
             THE COURT: She may answer.
15
             THE WITNESS: Can you repeat the question?
16
    BY MS. MELL:
17
        The Minimum Wage Act does not apply to the State's
18
    individuals in custody, correct?
19
                         Objection, foundation.
20
             MS. CHIEN:
             THE COURT: She may answer, if she knows.
21
22
             THE WITNESS: My experience is that question might
    vary, and I would check with the program staff.
23
```

Have you checked with the program staff on a question like Q

BY MS. MELL:

24

```
that presented to you in the past?
 1
    Α
        Yes.
 2
        And was that question presented to you in a question posed
 3
    by the Governor's office?
 4
                         Objection, relevance.
 5
             MS. CHIEN:
             THE COURT:
                         Sustained.
 6
    BY MS. MELL:
 7
        When that question was posed to you in the past, did you
     come up with an answer to the question?
                         Objection, relevance.
10
             MS. CHIEN:
             THE COURT: Sustained.
11
    BY MS. MELL:
12
        In your experience, has the Department of Labor &
13
     Industries taken on and handled complaints by individual
14
15
     detainees for the State of Washington?
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, foundation.
16
17
             THE COURT: No, she may answer that.
             THE WITNESS: I would -- I am not sure. I don't
18
    always see all of the complaints that might come into the
19
     Department. I am unsure. I don't know whether we would have
20
    had something like that or not.
21
    BY MS. MELL:
22
23
        Has the Department taken a position on whether or not
     there are policy reasons, either fiscal or to achieve policy
24
```

objectives of the State, that the individuals who the State

Ι

Fellin - Direct

```
detains, puts in State custody, should not get minimum wages?
```

- 2 A I don't know. I would have to again consult the program
- 3 staff whether we have taken a policy position like that.
- 4 Q Have you ever looked at the Minimum Wage Act?
- 5 A Yes.
- Q Have you had the experience of dealing with the definition of "employee" and, in particular, the express exemption for
- 8 individuals within the custody of the State of Washington?
 - MS. CHIEN: Objection, foundation.
- THE COURT: The question is whether she has looked at
- 11 it. She may answer that.
- THE WITNESS: Yes, I personally have looked at it.
- personally would not be the person to make those kinds of
- 14 determinations, though.
- 15 BY MS. MELL:
- 16 Q You know, as we sit here today, that people who the State
- of Washington have in its custody are not employees under the
- 18 | Minimum Wage Act?
- 19 A I know what the program staff would tell me. My
- 20 | experience would suggest that those kinds -- that there are
- 21 | nuances, there are variations, so as the Department's
- 22 | lobbyist, I wouldn't make that kind of determination. I
- 23 | would rely on program staff to make those -- provide that
- 24 kind of input.
- 25 Q Have you ever had input from program staff that indicates

```
that people in the State's custody are employees under the
 1
 2
    Minimum Wage Act?
 3
        I don't know. Have I ever had input from program staff
    that inmates are covered? That was your question?
 4
 5
        No, it wasn't. It is kind of along those lines.
    Individuals who are in the custody of the State, inmate or a
 6
    special commitment center person, somebody who is civilly or
 7
 8
    criminally committed, have you ever had a situation where
    your staff has told you that the law that defines them not to
 9
    be employees doesn't apply?
10
                         Objection, calls for a legal conclusion.
             MS. CHIEN:
11
             MR. BERGER: Also calls for hearsay.
12
             THE COURT: Sustained. Yes.
                                           Sustained.
13
    BY MS. MELL:
14
15
        So let me get back to this and make sure I understand your
    testimony. You know for certain that there is, in the
16
17
    definition of "employee" in the Minimum Wage Act, an
    exclusion for individuals who are in State custody, correct?
18
                          Objection, Your Honor, the attorney --
             MR. BERGER:
19
20
    Ms. Mell is instructing the jury on the law or is asking a
    question. I am not sure it accurately states the law, in any
21
22
    event.
             THE COURT:
                         The objection is sustained on the last
23
```

I guess we can get the exception up so we

ground.

MS. MELL:

24

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                              Fellin - Direct
    can look at it expressly. Let me see if I can get that for
 1
 2
    you.
    BY MS. MELL:
 3
        You have looked at the definition of "employee" under the
 4
    Minimum Wage Act, correct?
 5
    Α
        Yes.
 6
        In looking at that definition, you know that there is an
 7
     exclusion or exception that applies to individuals in State
    custody?
                          Objection, same issue.
10
             MS. CHIEN:
             MR. BERGER:
                           Join.
11
             THE COURT: Sustained.
12
             MS. MELL: We will see if we can get that pulled up
13
    to get some clarity to what it actually says.
14
    BY MS. MELL:
15
        Has the Director -- while we are waiting, I'm going to
16
    move on here. Is it the Director's position it must
     investigate all wage complaints?
             MS. CHIEN:
                          Objection, foundation. She's not the
    director.
```

- 17 18
- 19 20
- THE COURT: If she knows, she may answer. 21
- THE WITNESS: I don't know if the Director has taken 22 23 that position.
- BY MS. MELL: 24
- Has L&I taken the position that if it receives a Minimum 25 Q

Fellin - Direct

```
Wage Act complaint, it will investigate it?
 1
 2
        My understanding from program staff is that the statute
 3
    tells us to investigate wage complaints.
        Have you had -- do you know that in an investigation of a
 4
    wage complaint, the State considers different objectives for
 5
    why somebody would or would not pay minimum wage, correct?
 6
 7
             MR. BERGER:
                          Objection, compound.
             THE COURT: The objection is sustained. We are going
 8
    to take an early break today because of an issue in another
 9
    building that could affect us. We are going to be at recess
10
    for at least ten minutes. You may be excused.
11
                              (Recessed.)
12
             THE COURT:
                         Is everybody back? You can bring the
13
    jury in and the witness.
14
15
         (The following occurred in the presence of the jury.)
             THE CLERK:
                         We have all the jurors back.
16
17
             THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen, it is kind of slow
    going this morning. We run into these delays sometimes.
18
    This time, it was a little unusual because it was a fire
19
    alarm in another building where some of the lawyers are and
20
21
    that required a longer recess than usual. Anyway, we are
22
    back ready to go after that long recess.
        Ms. Mell, you may ask your next question.
23
```

Ms. Fellin, can you hear me? I need her up there.

BY MS. MELL:

24

25

Q

1 A Yes, I can.

3

4

5

6

7

10

11

2 Q I needed to see you, too. All right.

It is your understanding that the Department of Labor & Industries has never historically investigated and processed a complaint by a person in state custody that they have not received and should have been entitled to minimum wages under the Minimum Wage Act, correct?

MS. CHIEN: Objection.

THE COURT: She may answer if she knows.

THE WITNESS: I don't know the answer to that question.

- 12 BY MS. MELL:
- 13 | Q Do you -- why don't you know the answer to that question?
- 14 Is it because you don't see the complaints that come in?
- 15 A I don't see all the complaints that come in. I also --
- 16 you know, we are a large agency. There is just no -- a
- single person is not capable of doing all of that, keeping
- 18 | track of all of that, so I don't know.
- 19 Q When you went into this case -- strike that.
- When you received my subpoena to testify, it is not an issue that you looked into?
- 22 A I didn't receive the subpoena. I think it went to the
- 23 attorneys. I think -- I would need to know what issue you
- 24 are wanting me to look into, I guess.
- 25 Q Did you have no idea why you were being called to testify

```
to the jury today?
 1
 2
             MR. BERGER:
                         Objection, Your Honor.
             THE COURT:
                          Sustained.
 3
    BY MS. MELL:
 4
        Did you have an understanding that you would be asked
 5
    questions about the Department of Labor & Industries'
 6
     application of the Minimum Wage Act to people in state
 7
     custody when you were called to testify today?
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, relevance.
10
             THE COURT: The objection is sustained.
    BY MS. MELL:
11
        In your position, is it knowable to you whether or not the
12
    State has enforced or been asked to enforce the Minimum Wage
13
    Act by any individual who is in state custody?
14
15
        Yes, it is knowable, if I consult with the program staff.
        Historically, you have never had to consult with the
16
17
    program staff about that question, correct?
        I have consulted with program staff, sure.
18
    Α
        Specific to whether or not an individual who is in state
19
    custody can obtain minimum wages for work done while in state
20
    custody?
21
22
        Yes, specifically to that question.
23
        And the response you got to that question is consistent
    with the Minimum Wage Act that expressly excludes from the
24
    coverage of the Minimum Wage Act people in state custody,
25
```

Fellin - Direct

```
correct?
 1
 2
             MS. CHIEN:
                          Objection, hearsay.
             MR. BERGER:
                           Objection.
 3
             THE COURT:
                          Sustained.
 4
    BY MS. MELL:
 5
        The knowledge you have about whether or not the complaints
 6
    would be covered under the Minimum Wage Act is that it was
 7
    not, correct?
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection.
             THE COURT:
                          Sustained.
10
    BY MS. MELL:
11
        What did you learn about the application of the Minimum
12
    Wage Act to individuals in state custody?
13
             MR. BERGER:
                           Objection.
14
             THE COURT:
                         Sustained. You are asking for hearsay,
15
    counsel.
16
17
             MS. MELL: It is the Department of Labor &
     Industries, which is a division of the State who is a party
18
    opponent. The position of the State agency is not hearsay.
19
    BY MS. MELL:
20
        Before the break, you had indicated that you do know that
21
    there's an exemption under the Minimum Wage Act for people in
22
23
     state custody?
        I have read the statute, yes.
24
        So I am going to show you what has been marked as A-307.
25
    Q
```

```
MS. CHIEN:
                         Is this in the Box, counsel?
 1
 2
             MS. MELL: Yes.
             THE WITNESS: Let me see if I can access it. Exhibit
 3
    A-307 is the one you referenced?
 4
    BY MS. MELL:
 5
        It should look like the statute.
    Q
 6
 7
    Α
        Okav.
        Is this the statute that you have looked at before on the
    issue of who is exempt and who is not considered an employee
    under the Minimum Wage Act?
10
        Yes.
    Α
11
        It is the definition section of the Minimum Wage Act,
12
    correct?
13
        It looks to be, yes.
14
             MS. MELL: Your Honor, if this is the statute she was
15
    looking at, may we publish for illustrative purposes, the
16
17
    definition?
             MS. CHIEN: We would object. Any instruction as to
18
    the law should be from the Court.
19
             MR. BERGER: Join, Your Honor.
20
             THE COURT: The objection is sustained. This goes
21
22
    far beyond the question you are seeking to answer. You can
23
    refer to a specific section if it is something she read, and
    ask her about it.
24
             MS. MELL: All right.
25
```

```
1 BY MS. MELL:
```

- 2 Q Subsection 3 is the definition of "employee," correct?
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q And an employee under Washington law includes any
- 5 individual employed by an employer but shall not include,
- 6 then it lists a series of people who aren't covered by the
- 7 | Minimum Wage Act, correct?
- 8 A Sure.
- 9 Q All right. If you go down to subsection (k), subsection
- 10 (k) says that any resident, inmate, or patient of a state,
- 11 county, or municipal correctional detention, treatment or
- rehabilitative institution is not an employee, correct?
- 13 A Yes, that is what is in the statute, yes.
- 14 Q And the Minimum Wage Act is a statute that Labor &
- 15 | Industries enforces?
- 16 A Yes.
- 17 | Q Labor & Industries has never previously sought to change
- 18 the definition of "employee" to cover people in state
- 19 custody, correct?
- MS. CHIEN: Objection, foundation, and misstates the
- 21 **law**.
- THE COURT: The objection is sustained.
- 23 BY MS. MELL:
- 24 | Q It is the position of the Department of Labor & Industries
- 25 that you have to follow that law, correct?

```
Yes, we have to follow the law, as the state regulator.
1
```

- 2 You would agree that the legislature controls setting the
- policy, and this is one of the policies that the legislature 3
- has set, correct? 4
- A Yes, the legislature puts their policy into the statute, 5
- 6 yes.
- 7 Then it is your job, with the Department of Labor &
- Industries, to enforce the policies specified by the
- legislature, correct?
- 10 MS. CHIEN: Objection.
- THE COURT: I don't know what you mean by "policies" 11
- specified by the legislature." Are you talking about laws 12
- passed by the legislature or some other administrative issue? 13
- Well, I am talking about the laws and the 14 MS. MELL:
- 15 policy implications of the laws. There is a difference
- between policy and enforcing policy. Policy making versus --16
- 17 THE COURT: Ask the question for the witness.
- BY MS. MELL: 18
- It is the job of the Department of Labor & Industries to 19
- enforce the laws of the State of Washington as the 20
- legislature sets forth the laws of the State of Washington, 21
- correct? 22
- 23 Α Yes.
- And their policy reasons, they may be fiscal, they may be 24
- substantive policy concerns that are the reason for the law, 25

```
correct?
 1
 2
             MR. BERGER: Objection, foundation.
             THE COURT:
                         I think she may answer this general
 3
               Do you understand the question?
 4
             THE WITNESS: I am not entirely sure, Your Honor,
 5
    what the question was.
 6
    BY MS. MELL:
 7
        There are fiscal reasons and policy reasons why people in
    the custody of the State are not employees under the Minimum
    Wage Act, correct?
10
             MR. BERGER: Objection, foundation.
11
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection.
12
             THE COURT:
                         The objection is sustained.
13
    BY MS. MELL:
14
        In --
15
    Q
             MS. MELL: Is that on foundation grounds, Your Honor,
16
17
    or relevance?
             THE COURT: You are asking the witness a question
18
    that it doesn't make sense for her to be able to answer that
19
20
    question.
             MS. MELL: All right.
21
    BY MS. MELL:
22
23
        In your position in the policy shop of the Department,
    Ms. Fellin, is it your job to explain to stakeholders and
24
    constituents why the Department of Labor & Industries would
25
```

```
choose to enforce the law as written, policy and fiscal
1
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- 2 reasons that you discuss with them?
- Yes, generally. When a legislator has a question about 3
- how an individual case has been adjudicated or something like 4
- that, they can ask me. I will consult with our program 5
- staff. 6
- 7 Do you know that there are reasons why the State of
- Washington exempts people in its custody from the Minimum
- Wage Act? 9
- Objection, foundation. 10 MS. CHIEN:
- THE COURT: Sustained. 11
- BY MS. MELL: 12
- Do you know the reasons why the State exempts people in 13
- its custody from the Minimum Wage Act? 14
- 15 No. I don't know.
- In your position with the Department of Labor & 16
- 17 Industries, you have not had to explain that to anyone?
- No, not that I recall. It is a question I would likely 18
- refer to the legislature. I am mindful that we -- that they 19
- create the law. They can explain their intent better than I 20
- 21 can.
- It is the Department of Labor & Industries' job to enforce 22
- the law, correct, that law in particular? 23
- Yes, that is the role of the Department. 24
- And the Department of Labor & Industries, to the best of 25 Q

```
your knowledge, has never enforced the Minimum Wage Act
 1
 2
    against an individual in state custody?
                         Objection, foundation. Asked and
 3
             MS. CHIEN:
 4
    answered.
             THE COURT: Sustained.
 5
    BY MS. MELL:
 6
        Do you have knowledge specific to complaints made by
 7
    detainees at the Northwest ICE Processing Center specific to
    the Minimum Wage Act?
        I can't say if it is specific to detainees at the Center.
10
        You have dealt with the issue of whether or not detainees
11
    at the Northwest ICE Processing Center are covered by the
12
    Minimum Wage Act, correct?
13
                         Objection, relevance.
14
             MS. CHIEN:
15
             MR. BERGER:
                         Objection, Your Honor. I believe this
    deals with something the Court has ruled on previously.
16
17
             THE COURT:
                         The objection is sustained.
    BY MS. MELL:
18
        Ms. Fellin, the facility administrator at the Northwest
19
    ICE Processing Center was asked whether or not there is a
20
    document of any kind indicating that the Minimum Wage Act
21
22
    does not apply to detainees at the Northwest ICE Processing
23
    Center. You authored such a document, didn't you?
             MR. BERGER:
                          Objection.
24
                         Objection, relevance.
25
             MS. CHIEN:
```

```
MR. BERGER:
                         Ask the question be stricken.
 1
 2
             THE COURT:
                         The objection is sustained.
    BY MS. MELL:
 3
        Has the Department of Labor & Industries taken a position
 4
    on the application of the Minimum Wage Act to detainees at
 5
    the Northwest ICE Processing Center and changed its position?
 6
             MS. CHIEN:
 7
                         Objection.
 8
             THE COURT:
                         The objection is sustained.
             MS. MELL: Your Honor, I would like to examine the
 9
    witness on a document that is in the Box. It is labeled 305,
10
    A-305.
11
             MS. CHIEN: Your Honor, we object to any testimony
12
    related to A-305.
13
             THE COURT: A-305?
14
             MS. MELL: Yes, Your Honor.
15
             MS. CHIEN: This is a document the Court has
16
17
    previously excluded. It was previously marked as A-231.
                                                                The
    Court excluded this document.
18
             THE COURT:
                         The copy I have of it here is mostly
19
20
    blank pages.
             MS. MELL:
                        That's the correct document, Your Honor.
21
22
             MS. CHIEN: It was excluded previously.
23
             MS. MELL:
                        My question is whether or not it is an
    official position of the Department with --
24
             MR. BERGER: Your Honor, there is a motion --
25
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Fellin - Direct
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objection pending.
 1
 2
             THE COURT: Yes, just a minute. What I have, you say
    it is the accurate copy of A-305. There is nothing relevant
 3
    in it.
 4
    BY MS. MELL:
 5
        Ms. Fellin, did you receive any documents that reflected
 6
    an official position of anyone with the State of Washington
 7
    on the application of the Minimum Wage Act --
             MS. CHIEN: Objection.
    BY MS. MELL:
10
    Q -- to the detainees at the Northwest ICE Processing
11
    Center?
12
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection.
13
             MR. BERGER: Objection.
14
             THE COURT: The objection is sustained.
15
    BY MS. MELL:
16
17
        Ms. Fellin, did you ever craft an email for purposes of
    taking an --
18
             MS. CHIEN: Objection.
19
             MR. BERGER: Objection, Your Honor. I think --
20
             THE COURT: Yeah, the objection is sustained,
21
    Ms. Mell. Don't go there.
22
23
    BY MS. MELL:
        Ms. Fellin, have you authored or expressed a position that
24
    reflects the formal position --
25
```

```
MR. BERGER:
                          Objection.
 1
 2
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection.
                        I get to ask whether or not there is a
 3
             MS. MELL:
     formal official position. That is expressly within the
 4
    Court's ruling.
 5
             THE COURT: Well, your questions did not go to that
 6
     question now, whether there is an official position or
 7
 8
     something.
             MS. MELL: I may ask that, though, right?
             THE COURT: I don't know. Ask and we will see.
10
             MS. MELL: Thank you, Your Honor.
11
    BY MS. MELL:
12
        Ms. Fellin, is there or has there been an official
13
    position of the Department of Labor & Industries with regard
14
15
     to the application of the Minimum Wage Act to detainees at
     the Northwest ICE Processing Center who volunteer in the work
16
17
    program there?
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection to the "has been."
18
             THE COURT:
                         Sustained.
19
    BY MS. MELL:
20
        Ms. Fellin, can you tell me whether or not the Department
21
     of Labor & Industries has ever weighed in, in an official
22
23
    way, with regard to the application --
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection.
24
             THE COURT:
25
                         The objection is sustained.
```

```
1 BY MS. MELL:
```

- 2 Q Is there an official position of the Department on whether
- 3 or not the exemption contained within 49.46.010 for state
- 4 detainees is also applicable to the Northwest ICE Processing
- 5 | Center?
- 6 A I would have to check with the policy staff to know if
- 7 there is an official position.
- 8 Q Do you know whether or not the Department has ever applied
- 9 the State exemption --
- MS. CHIEN: Objection --
- 11 BY MS. MELL:
- 12 Q -- to detainees?
- THE COURT: I think the objection would be sustained
- 14 | if you completed your question.
- 15 BY MS. MELL:
- 16 Q Has the Department of Labor & Industries enforced the
- 17 | Minimum Wage Act against federal employees?
- MS. CHIEN: Objection, foundation.
- THE COURT: I think she may answer if she knows.
- THE WITNESS: I don't know the answer to that.
- 21 BY MS. MELL:
- 22 | Q Are you unaware of any cases like that?
- 23 A Yeah, I am not aware of cases like that.
- 24 | Q Are you aware of the Department of Labor & Industries
- seeking to enforce the Minimum Wage Act against any of the

62

```
federal prisons or detention centers?
 1
 2
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, foundation.
             THE COURT: No, I think she may answer that question,
 3
    if she knows.
 4
 5
             THE WITNESS: I am not aware of that type of
    enforcement action. I wouldn't know in my role, necessarily.
 6
    BY MS. MELL:
 7
        In your role, if the Governor's office got involved, then
    you might know, correct?
        I may know if they asked me, and I could coordinate the
10
    input of our staff. Unless they involve me, I would likely
11
    not know.
12
        Has the Department -- has the Department of Labor &
13
    Industries made it pretty straightforward and simple to file
14
15
    a Minimum Wage Act complaint?
        Well, yes, over the last several years we have made it
16
17
    possible to file online, which has increased the number of
    complaints that we have received.
18
        That online format, doesn't it invite the individual who
19
    is making the complaint to provide documentation of their
20
    wage claim?
21
        I am guessing that is true. I haven't looked at the
22
    online application myself.
23
```

Do you know if one of the documents that the Department Q seeks from an individual making a Minimum Wage Act complaint

24

```
is a written wage agreement?
1
```

- I don't know that specifically, no. 2
- So if L&I receives a complaint through its online 3 Q
- platform, then L&I opens an investigation, correct? 4
- That's my understanding, yes. 5
- So part of that investigation includes taking down 6
- information from the employee, getting specific documentation 7
- to the hours actually worked, correct?
- Seems reasonable, but I have never done that. I can't 9
- speak knowledgeably about that process. 10
- Are you familiar enough with the process to know that L&I 11
- usually contacts the employer for a response and gives them 12
- an opportunity to either document their case or object --13
- MS. CHIEN: Objection. 14
- BY MS. MELL: 15
- -- on legal grounds? 16
- 17 THE COURT: The form of that question is
- objectionable, counsel. 18
- BY MS. MELL: 19
- In an L&I investigation of the Minimum Wage Act, does L&I 20
- talk to the employer? 21
- I don't know that. I have never done an investigation. 22
- It would seem likely. 23
- Is it pretty typically the case that Labor & Industries 24
- works with employers to come into compliance with the law? 25

```
MS. CHIEN:
                          Objection, foundation.
 1
 2
             MR. BERGER:
                          Objection, foundation.
             THE COURT:
                          Sustained.
 3
    BY MS. MELL:
 4
        Is it correct that L&I takes whatever information it
 5
    obtains in the investigation and then issues findings?
 6
                          Objection, foundation.
 7
             MS. CHIEN:
             MR. BERGER:
                          Objection, foundation.
 8
             THE COURT: Well, she can answer if she knows.
                                                               Ιf
 9
    you don't know, just say so, Ms. Fellin.
10
             THE WITNESS: I would say that L&I does a whole
11
    variety of investigations. I am aware of the process for
12
     several of our programs that we issue findings or letters of
13
     compliance, those kinds of things.
14
    BY MS. MELL:
15
        Those are findings that are communicated to the employer,
16
17
    correct?
        That's what I am told, yes. I don't do that, but yes.
18
    Α
        Then those -- then the employer can resolve it or can
19
    contest it, correct?
20
        That is generally the case, yes, I think.
21
    Α
        If the employer is taking a position that L&I believes is
22
23
     inconsistent with the law, L&I can formally file a legal case
    against the employer, correct?
24
        Again, my understanding is it would depend on the specific
25
    Α
```

```
Case 3:17-cv-05806-RJB
                      Document 521
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                                               Page 65 of 183
               In general, there is a process for adjudicating
 1
 2
     disagreements under the law, yes.
         In fact, L&I is, in fact, the agency expressly authorized
 3
    Q
     to enforce the Minimum Wage Act, correct?
 4
             MS. CHIEN:
                          Objection.
 5
             THE COURT:
                          She may answer.
 6
             THE WITNESS: I believe so when it comes to the State
 7
     minimum wage and the jurisdiction under the statute, yes.
 8
    BY MS. MELL:
        Called the Wage Payment Act, right?
10
        Now you are getting into specifics I am not entirely sure
11
          I would, again, speak with the program staff.
12
        Are you familiar with the Director's orders on the Wage
13
    Q
    Payment Act?
14
15
        No, I am not.
        Are you aware the Department of Labor & Industries files
16
17
     formal complaints and lawsuits against employers to enforce
     the Minimum Wage Act?
18
             MS. CHIEN:
                          Objection, relevance.
19
```

THE COURT: She may answer if she knows.

20

21

22

23

24

25

THE WITNESS: I am trying to think -- I would guess that is the case. I am not sure that I have ever been notified of that kind of action on the Department's behalf. I have certainly never been part of any of that.

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Fellin - Direct
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```
BY MS. MELL:
 1
 2
        Do you know that L&I isn't the named party or plaintiff in
    this case?
 3
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, relevance.
 4
 5
             THE COURT: She may answer.
             THE WITNESS: I don't know that, no.
 6
    BY MS. MELL:
 7
        Do you know -- well, did you have -- strike that.
           Do you have any knowledge about whether or not the
 9
    Department was asked to be a party plaintiff in this action?
10
        I don't recall, no.
11
    Α
        Is Joel Sacks the director?
12
    Q
        Yes, Joel Sacks is the director.
13
        Did you have a conversation with Joel Sacks a few days
14
15
    before this lawsuit got filed?
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, relevance.
16
17
             THE COURT: She may answer.
             THE WITNESS: I am only vaguely aware of when the
18
     lawsuit was filed. In my role, I speak daily with the
19
    Director. I don't know how to answer more specifically than
20
    that.
21
    BY MS. MELL:
22
23
        Do you remember that it wasn't the Director's idea to file
    a lawsuit against GEO?
24
```

MS. CHIEN: Objection, this goes to motion in limine

```
Case 3:17-cv-05806-RJB
                      Document 521
                                   Filed 08/12/21 Page 67 of 183
    No. 1 about prosecutorial discretion.
 1
             THE COURT: Yes, the objection is sustained.
 2
    BY MS. MELL:
 3
        Do you remember dealing with Jorge Barone of the Northwest
 4
     Immigration Rights Project?
 5
                          Objection, relevance.
             MS. CHIEN:
 6
             THE COURT: I don't understand the question, I guess.
 7
    Restate it.
 8
    BY MS. MELL:
        Did you ever communicate to GEO the Department of Labor &
10
     Industries' position on the application of the Minimum Wage
11
    Act to it?
12
             MS. CHIEN:
                          Objection, relevance.
13
             THE COURT:
                          She may answer.
14
             THE WITNESS: Yeah, I don't recall.
15
    BY MS. MELL:
16
17
        Do you know that if you knew the Department had a position
    on the Minimum Wage Act case that you didn't communicate to
18
    GEO?
19
                          Objection, confusing.
             MS. CHIEN:
             THE COURT: She may answer.
```

- 20
- 21
- 22 THE WITNESS: I am not entirely sure what the
- question was. If you can say it again. 23
- BY MS. MELL: 24
- Did you have knowledge on the State's position on the 25 Q

```
application of the Minimum Wage Act to GEO that you chose not
 1
 2
    to share with GEO?
             MR. BERGER: Objection, relevance.
 3
             THE COURT:
                         Sustained.
                                      Sustained.
 4
    BY MS. MELL:
 5
        Typically, does the Department notify an employer if the
 6
 7
    Minimum Wage Act is at issue with regard to the people in its
    custody or whom it employs?
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, relevance.
                         That is kind of a compound question.
10
             THE COURT:
    Break it up.
11
    BY MS. MELL:
12
        If the Department has taken a position on the application
13
    of the Minimum Wage Act specific to an employer, does the
14
15
    Department inform the employer?
        I don't know that. I would say that the Department
16
17
    doesn't typically make affirmative statements in this area.
    I am told that we are more likely to respond to a wage
18
    complaint than make -- or initiate that kind of contact.
19
        What do you mean? You typically respond to individualized
20
    complaints? You don't file lawsuits?
21
22
        I thought the question was whether or not we notify the
```

I think you gave an answer that I am following up

to that might not have been responsive. I am trying to keep

employer.

23

24

25

Q

```
pace with what you were saying. Is it correct that L&I
 1
 2
    responds to individualized wage complaints, it doesn't
    typically file lawsuits against employers?
 3
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, relevance. Prosecutorial
 4
    discretion.
 5
             THE COURT: Sustained.
 6
    BY MS. MELL:
 7
        Is it correct that you, yourself, have never informed GEO
    that the Minimum Wage Act applies to the ICE detainees at the
 9
    Northwest ICE Processing Center?
10
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, relevance.
11
             THE COURT:
                         She may answer.
12
             THE WITNESS: I don't recall communicating with GEO.
13
    BY MS. MELL:
14
        Did you have knowledge about GEO and the Minimum Wage Act
15
    that you chose not to communicate with GEO?
16
17
             MR. BERGER:
                          Objection.
                         Objection.
             MS. CHIEN:
18
             THE COURT:
                         The objection is sustained.
19
    BY MS. MELL:
20
        To the best of your knowledge, the Department of Labor &
21
    Industries never reached out to GEO or the federal government
22
23
    to resolve any issues the Department had about the
    application of the Minimum Wage Act to the detainees at the
24
    Northwest ICE Processing Center, correct?
25
```

```
MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection, relevance.
 1
 2
             THE COURT:
                         Sustained.
                         I have nothing further, Your Honor.
 3
             MS. MELL:
             MS. CHIEN:
                         The State has no questions.
 4
                         Mr. Berger, Mr. Whitehead?
 5
             THE COURT:
             MR. BERGER: Plaintiffs have no questions.
 6
                         All right. Thank you, Ms. Fellin.
 7
             THE COURT:
                                                              You
 8
    may be excused.
 9
             THE WITNESS:
                           Thank you.
                         You may call your next witness.
10
             THE COURT:
                         Ms. Mell, can you tell us who you would
             MS. CHIEN:
11
    like us to tee up?
12
             MR. SILVERMAN:
                             Next up would be Debra Jean Eisen.
13
             MS. CHIEN: We are just trying to get her the
14
    documents, counsel.
15
             MR. SILVERMAN:
                              Thank you.
16
17
             THE CLERK:
                         The witness is in the process of joining.
             THE COURT:
                          If you will raise your right hand and be
18
19
     sworn.
                          DEBRA JEAN EISEN,
20
        having been sworn under oath, testified as follows:
21
22
             THE COURT:
                         You may inquire, counsel, Mr. Silverman.
                          DIRECT EXAMINATION
23
    BY MR. SILVERMAN:
24
        Good morning, Ms. Eisen. How are you?
25
    Q
```

- Good morning. I am fine, thank you. Α 1
- Q Could you state and spell your name for the record? 2
- Debra, D-E-B-R-A, J, Eisen, E-I-S-E-N. 3 Α
- What is your current job title? Q 4
- I am the contracts administrator for the Washington State 5
- Department of Corrections. 6
- 7 Q What are your job responsibilities at the Washington State
- Department of Corrections?
- I manage the office of contracts and legal affairs for the 9
- 10 agency.
- When you manage those contracts, do you manage both 11
- contracts where the State of Washington is putting prisoners 12
- somewhere as well as contracts where some other entity wants 13
- to put its prisoners into a State facility? 14
- 15 Well, my office drafts contracts. We work with the
- program personnel in the drafting, and I sign them. 16
- 17 not manage the contracts. Those are managed by program
- personnel. 18
- When you draft contracts, for instance, isn't it true that 19
- you draft contracts where the State of Washington would be 20
- potentially putting some of its incarcerated folks into a 21
- 22 facility that it doesn't own?
- 23 Α Yes.
- Do you also draft contracts where another governmental 24
- 25 entity may be putting incarcerated folks into a facility that

- the State of Washington does own?
- 2 A The office does, but those contracts are quite old so they
- 3 | have not been drafted in quite some time. Yes.
- 4 Q Let me start. Are you the contract under which ICE, the
- 5 | federal entity, has put some of its detainees into the Yakima
- 6 County facility?
- 7 A No.
- 8 MS. CHIEN: Objection, foundation.
- 9 THE COURT: She answered in the negative. Her answer
- 10 may stand.
- 11 BY MR. SILVERMAN:
- 12 Q Great. Let me talk about a contract which I think you are
- 13 | familiar with. Provided to you was a contract which was
- 14 | labeled A-023 between the State of Washington Department of
- 15 | Corrections and GEO. Do you have a copy of that contract
- 16 before you?
- 17 A May I open the envelopes that were given to me? I have
- 18 not opened anything.
- 19 Q It is like who won the Academy Awards. I think we are
- 20 doing better than they did.
- 21 A May I open these things now?
- 22 Q Please open the sealed envelope.
- 23 A There are two envelopes. I don't know where that would
- be, but I will look for it. This is not the contract.
- MS. CHIEN: Can you remind the witness what exhibit

```
Eisen - Direct Examination
     she should be looking for?
 1
 2
    BY MR. SILVERMAN:
         It is the contract you saw at your deposition, the
 3
    contract between the State of Washington Department of
 4
    Corrections and GEO?
 5
        Yes, contract No. 10825; is that correct?
 6
 7
        Yes. Do you recognize this document?
        I do.
        Can you tell me what it is?
10
    Α
        It is a contract between the State of Washington
    Department of Corrections and the GEO Group.
11
             MR. SILVERMAN: At this time, I would offer Exhibit
12
    A-023 into evidence.
13
             MS. CHIEN: No objection.
14
15
             MR. BERGER: No objection.
    BY MR. SILVERMAN:
16
17
        Can you tell me --
             THE COURT: Wait a minute, wait a minute, counsel.
18
    A-023 may be admitted.
19
                     (Exhibit A-023 was admitted.)
20
    BY MR. SILVERMAN:
21
```

- You don't need to do this on the screen. If you look at 22
- 23 page 32 of 31, ma'am, yes, that's how it is labeled, if you
- take a look at the signature page. 24
- 32 of 31? 25 Α

- 1 Q Yep.
- 2 A Okay. I don't see a 32. I am searching.
- 3 Q On the lower right-hand corner there are two numbers, the
- 4 | first of which is WA 00011388. That's the signature page.
- 5 **A Okay**.
- 6 Q My question for you is: When was the contract signed?
- 7 A May of 2015.
- 8 Q Who signed on behalf of the State of Washington Department
- 9 | of Corrections?
- 10 A Gary Banning.
- 11 | Q Who is that person?
- 12 A Gary was a predecessor who was at that time the contracts
- 13 administrator.
- 14 Q On the left it says, "Approved as to form only, Washington
- 15 Assistant Attorney General." What does that mean?
- 16 A That means the form of the contract, but not the content
- was approved by the Office of the Attorney General.
- 18 Q Let's turn back to the first page. That is on the screen
- 19 right now. At the bottom of the screen, the bottom of every
- 20 page says "State of Washington Department of Corrections."
- 21 Is that a standard format that the State uses on its
- 22 contracts?
- 23 **A Yes**.
- 24 | Q Is this contract, the drafting of it, is it initially
- 25 drafted by the State or by the entity that it contracts with?

```
Typically, the State would draft contracts for which it
 1
 2
    pays for the service, if there is payment involved.
    particular contract, because of its format, I believe was
 3
    drafted by the State, by Corrections.
 4
        Would you take the blowout off?
 5
           If you can look at the third -- the second "whereas" on
 6
    Page 1, "Whereas, GEO has available beds in its detention
 7
    system hereafter referred to as 'the facility'"?
        Uh-huh.
 9
10
        Why is that line there?
        Well, the "whereas" are generally to explain the
11
    development of the contract, the reasons for the contract.
12
    Q
        Then the next line states, "The facility is a correctional
13
    facility operated by GEO in which inmates may be lawfully
14
15
    confined." Fair to say this contract contemplates the State
    of Washington, if it had the need, would be putting folks
16
17
    into a GEO-owned facility?
        I can't say that because I didn't write this, but I can
18
    say elsewhere it does discuss that.
19
        We will get to it. On the bottom of Page 1 it defines
20
     "offender." States, "Any person incarcerated pursuant to
21
    applicable Washington laws and assigned to the facility for
22
```

housing under this contract." What was your understanding as

to what kind of folks would be potentially placed in a GEO

facility under that sentence?

23

24

```
Eisen - Direct Examination
             MS. CHIEN:
                          Objection, foundation.
 1
             THE COURT:
                         She may answer.
 2
             THE WITNESS: Well, anyone sentenced by a court to
 3
     more than a year of incarceration would be housed in a DOC --
 4
    Washington State DOC facility in Washington State. I mean,
 5
    anyone in Washington State sentenced.
 6
    BY MR. SILVERMAN:
 7
        Let's turn to Page 2. If you look at the term, it
     indicates the term is -- was to start May 1, 2015, correct?
10
    Α
        Yes.
        So be fair to say that the contract wasn't signed until
11
    two weeks after the term started, correct?
12
        That's when the agency signed. I didn't see when GEO
13
     signed. Both parties signed on --
14
15
        It wasn't signed until about two weeks after the term
    began, correct?
16
17
        Yes.
        Section 2.03 provides for termination for convenience.
                                                                  Do
18
    you know whether this contract was ever terminated for
19
    convenience prior to the end of the term?
20
        My understanding is it was not.
21
22
        If you can turn to Page 4, Section 305. There it provides
```

that offenders will be paid two dollars or whatever the

standard wage is for calendar work day when the work is six

23

24

25

or more hours per day.

```
Eisen - Direct Examination
                          Objection, incomplete reading of the
             MS. CHIEN:
 1
 2
     document.
                              Great.
 3
             MR. SILVERMAN:
    BY MR. SILVERMAN:
 4
        Can you read this provision for us?
 5
    Q
        Do you mean me?
 6
    Α
 7
    Q
        Yes.
                 Offender work program assignment payment.
    offender shall be paid $2, or the standard wage for that
    assignment, whichever is greater, per calendar work day when
10
     the work assignment of six or more hours per day less
11
     deduction for mandatory payments required by RCW 72.09.111."
12
        Was it your understanding that this contract requires an
13
    offender to work at least six hours to make the two dollars?
14
15
        Well, that is what the language seems to indicate.
    didn't write the contract, but that's what the language seems
16
17
     to indicate.
        Do you know again in your role whether the two dollars was
18
     a requirement of the State or whether it was a requirement of
19
    GEO?
20
        No, I do not.
```

- 21
- Have you seen similar two dollar rates in other DOC 22
- 23 contracts?
- I have not. 24 Α
- 25 Q There is a provision there that says "less deduction for

```
mandatory payments required by RCW 72.09" -- let me restate.
```

- 2 I put dashes where there weren't dashes. You see the
- 3 statement regarding deduction for mandatory payments?
- 4 A Yes.
- 5 Q What is your understanding of what those mandatory
- 6 payments are?
- $7 \mid A$ They include things -- I cannot name them all. They
- 8 include things like child support, crime victim's
- 9 compensation, those kinds of things that the incarcerant is
- 10 supposed to be paying for or paying towards.
- 11 | Q Does paying towards the cost of incarceration, is that one
- 12 of the payments that may be required?
- 13 A I do not know.
- 14 Q We will come back to that.
- 15 **A Okay**.
- 16 Q Let's move down to the next paragraph. It begins, "After
- each permanent move." Talks about, to the extent that
- someone moves they can receive a transitional stipend of one
- 19 dollar per day. Do you know what that provision is intended
- 20 to do?
- 21 A I have no idea. I have not seen that any place else.
- 22 | Q Is the opportunity for an incarcerant to do work a
- 23 provision in every State contract where it contracts another
- 24 entity to provide housing or detention services for a State
- 25 of Washington incarcerant?

```
Eisen - Direct Examination
        By RCW, incarcerated individuals are required to work in
 1
 2
    certain work programs within the facility. I have seen in
    contracts when we house incarcerants in state facilities and
 3
     it would be with other government or tribal facilities, there
 4
     is a provision that says that they will have the same access
 5
     to work programs as the other people incarcerated in that
 6
     facility.
 7
        It would be fair to say the reason for -- strike that.
           Fair to say the reason to have offenders work is so
 9
    that the offenders are occupied during that incarceration,
10
    correct?
11
        I think there are probably many reasons for it. That
12
    would be one reason for idleness. Not the only reason,
13
    certainly.
14
```

- It would be fair to say it is a safety and security choice for Department of Corrections, correct?
- 17 MS. CHIEN: Objection, foundation.
- THE COURT: Sustained. 18
- BY MR. SILVERMAN: 19

16

20

21

- Is safety and security one of the considerations for the reason that the Department of Corrections provides a mandatory work opportunity?
- 23 Well, a court determines that. The RCW says they shall participate in these work programs. The court has made that 24 determination. 25

- Q Is it also a safety and security choice for the Department
- 2 of Corrections?
- 3 A You know, I work in the contracts office. I do not make
- 4 the decisions for the prisons division as to why they might
- 5 do one thing or another, or privy to that information.
- 6 Q Do you remember when your deposition was taken in this
- 7 case?
- 8 A I do.
- 9 Q The deposition was transcribed by somebody who had to use
- 10 | a miracle machine, correct?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 Q You were sworn to tell the truth?
- 13 A Yes.
- 14 Q And under penalty of perjury. All right, if you take a
- 15 | look at Page 7 of your deposition. The exact line, Lines 20
- 16 to 23. You were asked, "Is it a policy choice of the
- 17 Department of Corrections?" You answered, "It is a safety
- and security choice for the Department of Corrections."
- 19 A You are right, I did.
- 20 Q Is that a correct statement?
- 21 A I did say that, yes.
- 22 Q Let's go back to the contract.
- 23 A Okay.
- 24 | Q In your other contracting regarding potentially moving
- 25 offenders from one facility to another, is the, quote,

```
"transitional stipend of one dollar per day" common?
1
```

- 2 No, it is not. As I said, I have not seen that in the
- 3 contracts we have in State for housing.
- Then let's turn to the second bullet point below that. 4
- The section says, "To be eligible for the transitional 5
- stipend the offender must," and then the second line is, "be 6
- on a waiting list for work assignments." 7
- Are you aware of any other contracts where an offender 8 may receive some sort of stipend for being on the waiting 9
- list to work? 10
- I am not. 11
- Do you have any knowledge or familiarity with this 12
- provision? 13
- I do not. Again, I don't believe that it's standard in 14
- 15 our contracts for other housing with government entities.
- Okay. Let's turn to the next page, which is Section 16
- 17 4.01.3. Be fair to say that one of GEO's obligations is to,
- quote, "make available work training and treatment programs," 18
- correct? It is the fourth line down. 19
- A Yes, make available work, training and treatment programs, 20
- 21 yes.
- 22 That's something that GEO is obligated to do under this
- contract, correct? 23
- I am reading. Yes. 24 Α
- Let's move down a couple of lines and move to the left 25 Q

```
1 hand, which it states, "Otherwise comply with applicable
```

- 2 | law." You see that?
- 3 **A** Yes.
- 4 Q That's an obligation that GEO has under the contract,
- 5 | correct?
- 6 A Yes.
- 7 Q Let's turn to the next page. Take a look at 4.02.4. This
- 8 requires GEO to permit the Washington Department of
- 9 | Corrections to monitor all activities pursuant to the terms
- 10 of the contract, correct?
- 11 A Yes.
- 12 | Q And how -- under your normal contracts, how does that
- 13 | monitoring work?
- 14 A Well, sometimes site visits are conducted. There is a lot
- of communication back and forth by phone or nowadays by teams
- 16 or however. There is exchange of -- there is paperwork,
- 17 | files. There is a lot of information that is exchanged in
- 18 | monitoring.
- 19 Q Does the Department of Corrections actively monitor these
- 20 contracts as opposed to just having the right to do so?
- 21 A I -- again, you know, I am not a program staff person so I
- 22 don't physically do the monitoring or have management over
- the contracts. I would assume so, that they would.
- 24 | Q Is the right to monitor a nonnegotiable provision in all
- 25 | Washington Department of Corrections contracts?

- A I can't answer that because there are so many types of contracts.
- 3 Q In a contract to put one of the State's incarcerants in a
- 4 | facility, are you aware of the State ever signing one of
- 5 those contracts where it didn't have the right to monitor the
- 6 | facility the person was going into?
- 7 A I cannot say unequivocally, but I would assume, based on
- 8 my work, that there would always be a monitoring provision.
- 9 Q Let's turn to the next paragraph, 2.02.5. This gives the
- 10 Washington --
- 11 A Did you say 2.02?
- 12 Q I'm sorry. 4.02.05. I may have given you my ATM PIN
- 13 | number by mistake. Ignore that.
- 14 A I'll check it out later.
- $15 \mid Q$ You'll be disappointed. Look at 4.02.05. This gives the
- State of Washington the right to assign an onsite manager to
- 17 ensure compliance?
- 18 | A Yes.
- 19 Q Is that something the State customarily requires in
- 20 contracts like that?
- 21 | A I don't know whether it is customary or not. This
- 22 contract was never used, so these provisions were never
- 23 invoked. I don't know.
- 24 Q Let's talk about other contracts the State has had. Is
- 25 this a common provision that the State inserts in contracts?

```
I don't know.
                       I don't know because, as I mentioned
 1
 2
    earlier, the contracts for housing folks in out-of-state
 3
    prisons with other governments are very old and I did not
    draft them. Some of them are from the '90s. I am not as
 4
 5
    familiar with that language. I just cannot say.
        Let's take it up to today. As we sit here today, does the
 6
    State of Washington, through median and intergovernmental
 7
    agreement, put incarcerants in facilities it doesn't own,
    could be a county or municipality?
 9
        Yes, we do. We have contracts with all the counties in
10
    Washington State and some tribal jails.
11
        In those contracts, does Washington reserve the right to
12
    have an onsite manager?
13
        I would have to look at the language of the contract.
14
                                                                Ι
15
    don't know.
                  I don't know.
        Do you have any personal knowledge whether the Department
16
17
    of Corrections actually has onsite managers in any of the
    contracts you have done intergovernmental agreements for?
18
        The only situation I can speak to is we had a contract
19
```

with Yakima County in Washington State for housing. There

was more program personnel. I can't say for sure whether

there was anyone there acting in a management capacity. I

know we did have program personnel on site in Yakima.

Yakima, is that a county facility?

was language about onsite personnel. My recollection is that

20

21

22

23

24

25

Q

```
1 A Yes.
```

- 2 Q Yakima County runs that?
- 3 A Yes, it is their prison. We no longer have incarcerants
- 4 | there, but we did.
- 5 Q Do you recall when you had incarcerants there whether they
- 6 were part of a work program?
- 7 A I don't know. That would be operational. I don't know.
- 8 Q Let's get back to stuff in the contract so it is easier to
- 9 determine whether you know it or not. Let's go to the next
- 10 section, 4.03. This section provides that GEO shall provide
- 11 health services, medical, dental and otherwise. Is that a
- 12 customary provision in contracts?
- 13 A Yes. Yes.
- 14 Q Do you know whether or not those health services are free
- 15 to the incarcerant?
- 16 A I believe that they are for the most part, but I can't say
- 17 | that all services -- the Department is responsible for
- 18 medically necessary care for incarcerated individuals. There
- 19 may be some kind of co-payment from the incarcerant for
- off-site care, meaning off site, taken from a facility to a
- 21 private practitioner or hospital, but I cannot say for
- 22 certain that this contract would have had that. I don't
- 23 **know**.
- 24 | Q Not going to be a memory test. There is a co-pay
- 25 | provision we are going to go through later. I was asking for

```
your general understanding. If you can turn to Page 11. It
```

- 2 is Section 4.05.1.
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q Called "offender work and programs." Take a look at these
- 5 sections. Are these standard terms of Washington agreements
- or are they customized for this specific contract?
- 7 A Just for -- I know that contracts to house incarcerants in
- 8 other public facilities do contain provisions about
- 9 participation in work programs. I cannot say whether this is
- 10 | the same language.
- 11 Q Let's turn to 4.05.2. This provision requires all
- 12 | eligible offenders will be productively occupied for at least
- 13 30 hours per week in work, educational, vocational or major
- 14 habilitation programs. Where does the 30 hours come from?
- 15 A I do not know.
- 16 Q Have you seen other contracts in the state of Florida --
- 17 | sorry, State of Washington -- I've got GEO on the brain -- of
- 18 | which -- which are a lower number or higher number than 30
- 19 hours a week?
- 20 A Not that I can recollect.
- 21 | Q What is your understanding of the purpose of this
- 22 subsection?
- 23 A I didn't write it. Reading it, it is pretty clear on its
- 24 | face, the first sentence about 30 hours per week. The second
- 25 sentence is clear as well that, "Payment shall not be

- rendered for a program that the State of Washington would not
- 2 pay for participation in." It is clear on its face.
- 3 Q Great. Let's turn to 4.09. GEO is responsible for
- 4 providing clothes and clean laundry to the offender, correct?
- 5 A Yes.
- 6 Q Do you know whether that is for a charge or without a
- 7 charge?
- 8 A I don't know.
- 9 Q Let's turn to Paragraph 5.03. That is Page 21 of 31.
- 10 Blowout Section 5.03. This talks about the mandatory
- 11 training of the GEO personnel.
- 12 **A Uh-huh**.
- 13 | Q Is this a standard provision that the State of Washington
- 14 imposes in contracts with the facility where it is putting
- 15 State of Washington incarcerants?
- 16 A I am not sure. I don't know.
- 17 | Q Have you seen this in other contracts?
- 18 A I can't say for certain. I know training is required. I
- 19 don't know if this is the same language.
- 20 Q Do you know where the 160 minimum hours of curriculum
- 21 | comes from?
- 22 A No. I do not.
- 23 Q Do you know whether this was requested by the State of
- 24 | Washington or by GEO?
- 25 A I have no idea.

```
1 Q This training requirement requires all personnel who
```

- 2 supervise, confine or care for the State of Washington
- 3 offenders who are put in that facility, correct?
- 4 A That's what the language says. It is not anything I know
- 5 | independent from that.
- 6 Q It says, "Before they begin to work." It would be your
- 7 understanding they are not allowed to have on-the-job
- 8 | training to get to 160, they have to hit 160 before they
- 9 start?
- 10 A Yes, that's how I would interpret it.
- 11 | Q Let's turn to the next page, Page 22. 6.02.01. It
- 12 indicates that GEO will bill \$60 per day per offender. Do
- 13 you see that?
- 14 | A I do.
- 15 | Q That is the rate from a 2015 contract. Do you know what
- 16 the current rate that the State of Washington is paying when
- 17 | it puts its offenders into other folks' facilities?
- 18 A Well, to my knowledge, we are not housing for long-term.
- 19 What we have are violator contracts where if somebody does
- 20 | not abide by the terms of their supervision, then they may be
- locally put into a local jail until DOC can determine where
- 22 to go from there. So we call those violator contracts with
- 23 the counties. The rates vary. They are controlled by the
- 24 legislature. So right now -- well, until last year, the cap
- 25 was about \$80 a day. They range anywhere from the 60s to

```
1 maybe into the 90s now.
```

- 2 Q That's capped by the legislature, you just said?
- 3 A The amount. It was capped at \$80 a day until last year,
- 4 the cap was lifted, but the amount that it can be increased
- 5 | is limited by the legislature to five percent per year.
- 6 Q Are you aware of whether the State of Washington was ever
- 7 | able to negotiate a deal where it paid less than the cap?
- 8 A Well, some of those facilities, some of those state jails
- 9 or county jails -- local or county jails do earn less than
- 10 the cap because that's where they started at a lower rate,
- 11 that is what was negotiated when they had started. That's
- 12 the only -- those are the only circumstances I know of for
- 13 payments relating to housing.
- 14 Q Let's turn to Paragraph 9.05, that's Page 27 of 31.
- 15 Jurisdiction and venue talks about the selection of
- 16 | Washington law, rules and regulations shall be applied in the
- 17 interpretation, execution and enforcement of this contract.
- 18 Do you see that? Is that common when the State of Washington
- 19 signs contracts under your purview?
- 20 A Usually, it relates to venue.
- 21 | Q So the second sentence relates to venue, the first
- 22 sentence talks about the applicability of State of Washington
- 23 | law to this contract. Do you see that?
- 24 A That is not what I commonly see.
- 25 | Q Where was the facility that it was contemplated that this

```
contract would cover?
```

- 2 A There is mention of Michigan, but there is also mention of
- other GEO facilities. It could be another state.
- 4 Q Let's turn to, if you look at the lower right-hand corner,
- 5 again, we are going to be past the contract. It is going to
- 6 be the first of the two numbers on the right-hand corner,
- 7 | it's going to be WA 00011408. It is Page 6 of 22. It will
- 8 take a minute for us to magically make that appear. There is
- 9 a provision D. This is a policy regarding trust accounts for
- 10 offenders, you see that?
- 11 A Yes.

- 12 Q What's your understanding of what a trust account for
- offenders policy would be for?
- 14 A The agency holds funds in trust for incarcerated
- 15 | individuals. My understanding would be that this policy sets
- the rules for how funds come and go and how they must be
- managed and what they are for.
- 18 Q So it's your understanding that if an incarcerant receives
- a stipend or money for participating in a work program, that
- 20 money goes into the trust account, correct?
- 21 A Yes, that's my understanding.
- 22 Q So this provision prohibits offenders from transferring
- 23 | funds between each other. My question for you is: What is
- 24 your understanding, are offenders allowed to have any
- businesses or any jobs while they are in these facilities,

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                                                                   91
                         Eisen - Direct Examination
    other than the official program set forth by the facility?
 1
        Do you mean outside of prison?
 2
 3
     Q
        Yeah.
                Can an -- let's break it down. Which is, can an
    offender buy stuff from the commissary and then resell it at
 4
    a profit to the other incarcerated folks?
 5
         I don't know. I would think not, but I really don't know.
 6
        This provision, which is part of the contract, prohibits
 7
     the offenders from transferring money to each other.
    was your understanding of why this is included in the
    contract?
10
        I don't know.
11
        This trust account for offenders policy, have you seen
12
    this attached to other contracts that your office has done in
13
    terms of placing --
14
        No. I have not seen this policy before, actually.
15
             THE COURT: Counsel, we are a couple of minutes
16
17
     for lunch. The jury should come back at 1:00. We will
18
                I want to talk to counsel before counsel breaks,
    continue.
19
```

I have a meeting at noon. I think we will break here but the jury may be excused.

(The following occurred outside the presence of the jury.)

20

21

22

23

24

25

THE COURT: We just spent considerable time on this contract and Ms. Eisen testified the contract was never used. So why are we spending time on it?

> Because, Judge, this is an overflow MR. SILVERMAN:

Eisen - Direct Examination

```
contract by the State of Washington. So if they need to put
 1
 2
    their incarcerants somewhere, they can. When they negotiated
    with GEO to do that, every one of the elements that we heard
 3
    during direct that is a bad thing about GEO, they put in
 4
    their own contract. The fact that they never actually put
 5
    any prisoners there under the contract isn't relevant.
                                                             This
 6
    is what the State demands in its own contracts when it
 7
    reserves the right to --
 9
             THE COURT: All right. Okay. Is this contract still
    in effect?
10
             MR. SILVERMAN:
                             It expired in 2018.
11
             THE COURT: Expired of its own weight in 2018?
12
             MR. SILVERMAN:
                             Yes.
13
             THE COURT: All right. Thank you. We will reconvene
14
15
    at 1:30. I have a court meeting at -- another Zoom deal.
    hope we will be ready to go at 1:00. It could be a few
16
17
    minutes late. Thank you.
                       (Recessed.)
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
```

AFTERNOON SESSION 1 2 JUNE 10, 2021 3 (The following occurred outside the presence of the jury.) THE COURT: We had a court meeting. The good news is 4 the three nominees for vacant positions in this district had 5 their Senate committee hearing this last week. There is no 6 7 apparent problems. We are hoping for -- that they will get 8 to the floor of the Senate here within a matter of a few With luck, we might have a new judge in Tacoma by 9 August, who would take my position, which has gone through 10 another judge's full term. I took senior status in 2000, and 11 Ron Leighton was appointed in 2002, I think. He retired 12 fully in August. It is that same position, which was the 13 second position in Tacoma that we think Judge David Estudillo 14 15 in Grant County will take that position. Are we ready now to proceed with Ms. Eisen? Yes. I see 16 17 her here. Bring the jury in and we can go to work. (The following occurred in the presence of the jury.) 18 THE CLERK: The jurors are back. 19 THE COURT: Okay. We have lost Ms. Mell. 20 MS. MELL: No, I am here. Okay. Mr. Silverman. 21 Go 22 ahead. 23 BY MR. SILVERMAN: Good afternoon. Seems like ages since we talked. 24 Q

can turn to, in the contract, only a few more tabs, Bates

Eisen - Direct

```
1 stamp WA00011413.
```

- 2 A I am there.
- 3 Q 416. See, after lunch. 416, not 413.
- 4 A Okay.
- 5 Q There we go. There is an indication of the debts that the
- 6 department collects and deductions out of incarcerant
- 7 accounts. You see that?
- 8 A Are you referring to E -- I see, referring to section II,
- 9 Roman Numeral II.
- 10 Q Yes, ma'am.
- 11 A I see that.
- 12 Q Let's go through 1 through 4, describe for me what kind of
- 13 | things these refer to?
- 14 A I cannot because I am not familiar with the trust
- accounting system or the requirements of it or the RCW.
- 16 Q These couple of pages list the kinds of deductions that
- are to be made from an offender's account, correct?
- 18 A It does say that. I don't know what RCW 72.09.450 says
- 19 specifically. It refers to that and says the department will
- 20 collect debt in the following order. That is all I can tell
- 21 you.
- 22 Q Okay. If you don't know --
- 23 A I don't know.
- 24 Q That is always an answer in court.
- 25 Let's turn to WA00011429.

```
1 \mid A \mid 0kay.
```

- Q Page entitled "disciplinary sanctions."
- 3 A Yes.
- 4 Q This page lists the kinds of things that can be taken away
- 5 from an incarcerant, see that, subsection E?
- 6 A I do.
- 7 | Q What is your involvement, if any, in inserting these
- 8 policies into a contract?
- 9 A Absolutely none because this contract with GEO obviously
- 10 is a custom contract. It is not what we typically do. They
- 11 are attaching the different policies which is not normally
- 12 what we do in our contracts. This contract was drafted and
- 13 | signed before I was contracts administrator and I had no
- 14 involvement with it. I am not familiar with prison
- operations. The sanctions would be under prison operations.
- 16 | Q If you look at No. 10, which is removal from waiting list
- 17 | for work or other program assignments as a potential loss of
- 18 privileges, are you familiar with that?
- 19 A Not other than what I am just reading now.
- 20 Q This is one of the policies attached to the contract,
- 21 | correct?
- 22 A It is in this exhibit that I have, yes.
- 23 | Q Last page, last page we are going to talk about in the
- 24 contract. I know everybody would be happy about that,
- 25 | WA00011469.

```
Α
       Okay.
               Okay.
1
```

- 2 You see the policy entitled "offenders in total
- confinement facilities will be charged a co-payment to 3
- participate in the cost associated with health care 4
- 5 services." Is it your understanding that incarcerants are
- charged a co-payment for certain health care services? 6
- 7 A You know, I think this might be an out-of-date policy.
- I -- I can tell you now that the position of the agency is 8
- that people will be provided with medically necessary health 9
- I don't think there are conditions attached to that. 10 care.
- I couldn't say for certain. 11
- The co-payments are a requirement under this contract, 12
- correct? 13
- According to the policy, yes. According to what you are 14
- showing me now and what I am reading, that's the only thing I 15
- can go by. 16
- 17 So we can put the contract down. You mentioned earlier
- that no detainees or prisoners or incarcerants were sent to 18
- GEO by the State of Washington under the terms of this 19
- contract, right? 20
- Yes. 21 Α
- 22 So fair to say this was an overflow contract that the
- State had in place in case it needed it? 23
- Essentially was a convenience contract for both the 24 Α
- Department and for GEO because GEO had a right to refuse and 25

```
the Department had a right not to send.
1
```

- 2 In the past, the State of Washington has utilized other
- private contractors under contract to house incarcerants, 3
- correct? 4
- I only know of one, but yes, that would be correct. 5
- The one other contract is Corrections Corporation of 6 Q
- America? 7
- That's my understanding, yes.
- True that the State of Washington sent about 1,000 9
- incarcerants to Correctional Corporations of America under 10
- that contract? 11
- That's my understanding. 12
- That contract also had a stipulated two dollar per day 13 Q
- payment to incarcerants for a minimum of six hours of work? 14
- 15 MS. CHIEN: Object, misstates the testimony.
- THE COURT: Objection is overruled. 16
- 17 THE WITNESS: Would you please repeat that.
- BY MR. SILVERMAN: 18
- Under the Corrections Corporation of America contract, 19
- isn't it true that the incarcerants that were sent to that 20
- company by the State of Washington received a two dollars per 21
- 22 day payment for their work?
- Would you please point me to the provision in the contract 23
- where the language is? 24
- I don't have the contract, but do you remember that? 25 Q

```
A Well, I remember there is something about two dollars a
1
2
   day. I do not recall whether it was as in the GEO contract,
3
   the greater of that amount or whatever is typically paid for
```

- that type of work. I don't want to attest to that without 4
- 5 being sure of what this says. Maybe I can find it.
- MS. CHIEN: Ms. Eisen, you have to be directed to my 6 7 documents by counsel.
- THE WITNESS: Sorry. I am used to finding things in 8 the contract. 9
- BY MR. SILVERMAN: 10
- Do you remember when you were asked about this issue in 11
- your deposition? 12
- I remember being asked about ACA. I don't specifically 13
- remember what my answer was without looking at the 14
- 15 deposition.
- Do you want to turn to Page 13 of your deposition? 16
- 17 What exhibit is my deposition? Right here.
- Page 13. Line 3, you were asked, "What were the 18
- stipulations as to work?" You answered, "It stipulated to 19
- wage for the offenders to work." You were asked, "What was 20
- the wage for offenders to work?" You stated, "I believe it 21
- was two dollars per day." 22
- 23 I see that. What I would add to that now with becoming
- more familiar with the GEO contract is it might say the 24
- 25 greater of, either the two dollars or the customary wage for

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     that type of work. I am not sure about that.
 1
 2
        You were also asked in that regard, just -- again, it is
 3
     the bottom of Page 13 to the top of Page 14, the last line
     25, "Just tell me what the two dollars was." Your answer
 4
 5
    was, "It was payment to incarcerants that worked more than
     six hours a day per day that CCA would pay them." You were
 6
    asked, "And tell me, two dollars a day is a" (inaudible) --
 7
     The answer was, "For working more than six hours per day, six
    or more hours, I think it said six hours or six or more
 9
    hours."
10
        I see that. I did say that.
11
        Is that accurate?
12
    Q
        It is what I said at the time, yes.
13
        Did you have an opportunity to talk to counsel during the
14
    Q
15
     lunch break that we all took?
        I had lunch with counsel. I had lunch with other
16
17
    attorneys, but not with Ms. Chien.
    Q
        Did you have any discussions about this case during lunch?
18
                          Objection.
19
```

- MS. CHIEN:

- THE COURT: She may answer. Wait a minute. 20
- MR. SILVERMAN: 21 That is a yes or no.
- 22 THE COURT: She may answer.
- THE WITNESS: We had some discussion. Yes, we had 23 some discussion. 24

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1 BY MR. SILVERMAN:
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- 2 Q So were any of the counsel that you had lunch with counsel
- 3 on the screen here in this case?
- 4 A Yes. Yes.
- 5 | **Q** All right.
- 6 A I did not discuss the case with any of the counsel on the
- 7 | screen.
- 8 Q Are you aware of detainees or incarcerants under DOC
- 9 | jurisdiction doing subminimum wage work?
- 10 A Please ask that again.
- 11 | Q Are you aware of detainees or incarcerants under DOC
- 12 jurisdiction doing subminimum wage work?
- 13 A We don't have detainees. Our folks are incarcerated, yes,
- 14 their wages are below minimum wage for the programs that I am
- 15 familiar with.
- 16 Q Earlier you used the term "violators" for folks who seem
- 17 to have probation potential violations?
- 18 | A Yes.
- 19 Q Are you aware of any violators under DOC jurisdiction
- 20 doing subminimum wage work?
- 21 A I would say not. I am really not sure because violators
- 22 are usually in the jails for such a short period of time. It
- is sort of a weigh station until they are transported back.
- 24 I don't know. I would suspect not because I don't think they
- 25 are in the jails long enough to be established in a work

```
1 program.
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- 2 Q For the incarcerant under DOC jurisdiction doing
- 3 | subminimum wage work, what kinds of work is that?
- 4 A Are you interested only in the prisons or other work
- 5 programs outside of the prisons?
- 6 Q Anybody who is an incarcerant that doesn't get to leave
- 7 the facility.
- 8 A That would be Class III work for supporting the prison
- 9 operations. Working in that class is required by RCW. The
- 10 | types of work might be in the kitchen, in the laundry, office
- 11 work, janitorial work. It is not full-time. It is in
- 12 addition to programming and training and other things.
- 13 Q You mention Class III. What is Class III?
- 14 A There are five classes of the types of work that offenders
- can participate in. My office deals -- writes contracts for
- classes III, IV and V usually and is familiar with those.
- 17 | Classes I and II, we are not familiar with.
- 18 | Q What are Classes I and II?
- 19 A They are handled by Correctional Industries, another
- 20 division of the agency. They are -- I am not sure if it is I
- 21 and II or I or II, but there is the ability to work for
- 22 private contractors, and folks are still housed at the prison
- 23 | but the work they do can be for a private company and they
- 24 paid minimum wage or more.
- The classes I am familiar with -- III, IV and V -- are

```
paid subminimum wage, by statute they can be, or they are not
1
```

- paid at all because it is considered community restitution. 2
- Are all Class I and II work programs at minimum wage or 3 above? 4
- MS. CHIEN: Objection, foundation. 5
- THE COURT: I think you should rephrase the question. 6
- I am not sure I understand it. 7
- BY MR. SILVERMAN:
- Ma'am, you just talked about some kinds of work projected 9
- under Class II. To the best of your understanding and 10
- knowledge, are all Class II work programs at minimum wage or 11
- above? 12
- I don't know. I can't say for sure. 13
- Does your division within Department of Corrections 14 Q
- 15 contract with a company called Keefe?
- Currently, I don't believe so, no. 16 Α
- 17 Does your division contract with a company called Telmate?
- I am not sure. I don't know. I would have to check. 18 Α
- For things like a commissary contract or the telephone 19
- contract, does that go within your department? 20
- Yes, that would -- well, yes, it would be under my 21
- purview, yes, for commissary, and in fact we are currently in 22
- the midst of a procurement for telephones and other media 23
- services. 24
- 25 Q Great. Do you have any knowledge as to whether for the

```
different classes of prisoner like you talked about, whether
1
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- 2 all of them have deductions taken from their accounts for the
- cost of their detention? 3
- I don't know. I would imagine so except for Class V 4
- because they don't earn anything. I don't know. As I said, 5
- I am not familiar with the trust accounting system and that 6
- detail. 7
- MR. SILVERMAN: No further questions, Your Honor. 8
- THE COURT: Ms. Chien. 9
- CROSS-EXAMINATION 10
- BY MS. CHIEN: 11
- Hi, Ms. Eisen. I would like to clarify some things. I 12
- heard you talk about a DOC contract with Yakima. I want to 13
- be clear, is that contract related to ICE? 14
- 15 Α No.
- DOC doesn't house immigration detainees; is that right? 16
- 17 Α Correct.
- Talk to me about the people who are incarcerated at DOC, 18
- who does DOC incarcerate? 19
- We incarcerate people who committed a crime who have been 20
- sentenced to a term of one or more years -- one year or more 21
- 22 by court of law.
- How are they referred to as? 23
- Incarcerated individuals. 24 Α
- Does DOC incarcerate anyone based on civil or 25 Q

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administrative proceedings?
1
```

- 2 Α No.
- Are all physically capable DOC inmates required to work? 3
- The RCW requires work in Class III of incarcerants in the 4
- They require some work along with the programming 5
- and training and counseling and whatever else. 6
- You have said "RCW." I want to make sure the jurors 7
- understand. When you say "RCW," you mean a statute, a law
- that requires them to work?
- Yes. 10 Α
- Let's talk about this contract that we have spent some 11
- time on. I want to make clear, did DOC ever actually send 12
- any DOC inmates to a GEO facility? 13
- Α No. 14
- The contract -- is DOC's contract with GEO still in 15
- effect? 16
- 17 Α No.
- When did DOC's contract with GEO expire? 18
- August of '18. 19 Α
- There was not a single DOC inmate who has participated in 20 Q
- a work program run by GEO; is that right? 21
- To my knowledge, yes, correct. 22
- If DOC had sent inmates to that GEO facility, I understand 23
- they didn't, if they had, did the DOC-GEO contract 24
- 25 contemplate that inmates would participate in a work program

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and be paid?
1
```

- Α Yes. 2
- Who would be responsible for managing that program? 3
- GEO. Α 4
- Who would be responsible for identifying the work duties 5
- and schedules? 6
- It would be GEO. 7
- Who would be responsible for paying the inmates?
- The same, it would be the contractor, GEO.
- We talked about what the contract set for the inmate pay 10 Q
- in the work program; is that right? 11
- Α Yes. 12
- It said two dollars or the standard wage for that 13 Q
- assignment, whichever is greater; is that right? 14
- 15 Α Yes.
- What is the standard wage of the assignment mean? 16
- 17 What incarcerants are typically paid for that work, that
- type of work within the facility. 18
- So the facility and GEO, if it has multiple different 19
- types of incarcerants, not just DOC incarcerants, it would 20
- have to pay what was typical of that facility? 21
- What anyone else that did that same work would be paid for 22
- that same work. 23
- So if GEO was paying the Michigan minimum wage to other 24
- inmates in its facility, what would the GEO-DOC contract 25

```
Eisen - Cross
```

```
1 require?
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- 2 A That the Washington State incarcerants were paid the
- 3 minimum wage, then, for the same work.
- 4 Q Thank you. Do you suspect that the contract regarding CCA
- 5 that counsel asked you about had that same provision?
- 6 MR. SILVERMAN: Objection, Your Honor. Calls for
- 7 | speculation.
- 8 THE COURT: Sustained.
- 9 BY MS. CHIEN:
- 10 Q I am going to ask you to turn to Exhibit A-89. I am going
- 11 to ask you to turn to page, I believe -- actually, let me
- 12 start. Do you recognize this document?
- 13 A Yes, I have looked at it once before or twice before.
- 14 Q Is this the CCA contract?
- 15 A Yes.
- 16 | Q I am going to ask you to turn to where the pay is
- 17 | indicated. Actually, you are actually the contract expert.
- 18 | Can I ask you?
- 19 A I think it is 3.05 on Page 3. I located it. The bottom
- 20 of Page 3.
- 21 | Q Does that provision look similar as the provision we are
- 22 talking about with the GEO contract?
- 23 A Yes. It is similar to.
- 24 Q Refers to the standard wage assignment, whichever is
- 25 greater?

Eisen - Cros

```
1 A Yes.
```

- 2 Q Are you aware of whether or not DOC participated in a work
- 3 program under the CCA contract?
- 4 A I do not know.
- 5 Q Are you aware how much CCA paid inmates?
- 6 A I would not know.
- 7 | Q Let's turn back to the contract that was never used, which
- 8 I believe is A-23.
- 9 MR. SILVERMAN: Objection, Your Honor.
- THE COURT: State your objection.
- MR. SILVERMAN: The preface to her question, which
- 12 she hasn't started, "let's turn back to the contract that was
- 13 never used."
- THE COURT: The objection is overruled.
- 15 BY MS. CHIEN:
- 16 Q This contract that wasn't used, did it contain any other
- 17 | requirements related to state law?
- 18 A Well, yes. I mean -- well, I think all of our contracts
- 19 contain a provision that says that state law -- state,
- 20 | federal, constitutional law must be abided by, the contract
- 21 must be in conformance with law. This one --
- 22 Q Can we publish A-23. I want to make sure the jury is
- 23 | following along. Turn to Page 5. I want to highlight the
- 24 | first paragraph. I will do a call out so you can see it.
- 25 A It requires operation in accordance with operating

Eisen - Redirect

```
requirements. Those are defined in the definition on Page 2
1
```

- 2 as applicable federal, state, local law and court orders,
- constitutional standards, et cetera. 3
- Can you turn to Page 2? I want to make sure the jury is 4
- going to follow the definition. That provision requires that 5
- GEO comply with all state laws? 6
- Yes, it is at the top. All of our contracts require 7
- adherence to law.
- GEO's required to comply with federal, state and local law
- under this contract? 10
- Α Yes. 11
- One final question. Does DOC have any contract with any 12
- private facilities, corporations or prison services within 13
- the State of Washington? 14
- 15 Α No.
- MS. CHIEN: No further questions. 16
- 17 MR. SILVERMAN: I have some redirect.
- REDIRECT EXAMINATION 18
- BY MR. SILVERMAN: 19
- Did the State of Washington cancel this contract at any 20
- point prior to its natural termination date? 21
- Not that I know of. 22 Α
- 23 If it did cancel it, would you know about it?
- You know, at the time of the contract I was not the 24
- contracts administrator. So it ended August of '18. 25

```
Eisen - Redirect
```

- started as administrator in February of '18, I probably would
- 2 have known. I was the contracts administrator when it
- 3 | naturally ended.
- 4 Q This lawsuit was filed in 2017. Between 2017 and the end
- 5 date of this contract, it was never cancelled by the State of
- 6 Washington, correct?
- 7 A Not that I know of.
- 8 Q It provides it can be cancelled upon convenience without a
- 9 reason, right?
- 10 **A Uh-huh**.
- 11 Q But it didn't. You can't say "uh-huh."
- 12 A Excuse me. Yes. Sorry.
- 13 | Q Let's turn to Page 4 of the contract. At the very top,
- 14 Section 3.05. This is A-023, which is the GEO-State of
- 15 | Washington contract at Page 4.
- MS. CHIEN: This hasn't been moved into evidence.
- don't think it should be published.
- 18 MR. SILVERMAN: I offered A-023 in evidence at the
- 19 | very beginning.
- MS. CHIEN: I thought it was A-25.
- THE COURT: Yes.
- THE CLERK: A-025 was on the screen.
- MR. SILVERMAN: We dropped it off. It is A-023.
- 24 | Page 4 of 31. WA0011360.
- THE WITNESS: Yes.

```
Eisen - Redirect
             THE COURT: Wait a minute. The Bates number doesn't
 1
 2
    mean anything until I figure out what are you talking about.
    What is the exhibit number you are now discussing?
 3
             MR. SILVERMAN:
                             A-023.
 4
             THE COURT: Has this been in admitted in evidence?
 5
             MR. SILVERMAN: Yes, Your Honor.
 6
 7
             THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.
    BY MR. SILVERMAN:
 8
        Very top. Section 3.05. States, "The offender shall be
10
    paid two dollars or the standard wage for that assignment or
    whatever is greater."
11
        Yes.
12
    Α
        You testified the standard wage for that assignment is the
13
    standard wage at the facility, correct?
14
15
        Yes. That would be my supposition, yes.
        This doesn't say "paid at least two dollars a day," does
16
17
    it?
    A Well, it does say it would be whatever is greater because
18
    it says "or pay two dollars." It does set a floor of two
19
    dollars. That's how I read it.
20
        The only alternative to the two dollars is the standard
21
22
    wage at the facility, correct?
        Provided that it is greater, yes.
23
```

Doesn't say "at least two dollars," correct? The words

"at least" are not there, are they?

24

25

Q

```
That is correct, but I don't really understand the
 1
 2
    distinction that you are making.
        The setting of the offender's work rate at two dollars per
 3
    Q
    day as opposed to $14 a day, is the setting of the rate that
 4
    low based on the Washington law that exempts the State of
 5
    Washington Department of Corrections from paying the minimum
 6
 7
    wage?
        No, because that's available to the state government, to
    the department.
                             No further questions.
10
             MR. SILVERMAN:
             THE COURT:
                         Anything further?
11
             MS. CHIEN:
                         No, Your Honor.
12
             THE COURT:
                         Thank you --
13
             MR. BERGER: Excuse me, Your Honor. Mr. Berger might
14
15
    have questions.
             THE COURT: How come when I ask if there are
16
17
    questions, nobody speaks up and they speak up later?
             MR. BERGER:
                          I apologize.
18
             THE COURT:
                         No harm.
19
                          RECROSS-EXAMINATION
20
    BY MR. BERGER:
21
        What state did this contemplate overflow incarcerants
22
23
    would be housed in?
             MR. SILVERMAN:
                             Objection.
24
             THE COURT: Overruled.
25
```

```
THE WITNESS: The contract mentions Michigan and also
 1
 2
    mentions "or GEO facility," I believe.
    BY MR. BERGER:
 3
        Under the terms of the contract, would the laws of
 4
    Michigan or whatever other state the incarcerants were in
 5
    apply?
 6
    A Yes. Yes.
 7
             MR. BERGER: Thank you.
             THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Eisen. You may be
 9
10
    excused.
             THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.
11
             THE COURT: You may call your next witness.
12
             MS. MELL:
                        Lynne Buchanan.
13
             MS. CHIEN: Can we have a conference with this
14
    witness outside the presence of the jury? We believe we are
15
    going to have a similar issue.
16
17
             THE COURT: The jury can be excused for a minute.
    Take a stretch. Won't take long.
18
      (The following occurred outside the presence of the jury.)
19
             MS. CHIEN: Your Honor, the State would object to
20
    this witness. I think you can see how the testimony would
21
22
    play out, almost exactly the same as Ms. Fellin, which I
23
    don't think was useful to anybody. Ms. Buchanan will only
    testify to emails from 2014 related to the Northwest
24
    Detention Center.
25
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Buchanan - Direct

THE COURT: I don't know what she's going to testify Certainly, we've got two witnesses that we spent a lot of time on that didn't know much about anything having to do I am not going to grant a motion in limine to with the case. strike the witness because I don't know what they are going I hope we don't waste more time with people to testify to. that don't know the answers to the questions that are appropriate to be asked. Bring the jury back. (The following occurred in the presence of the jury.) THE COURT: We lost Juror No. 3, I see. Said to take a break, I guess she's taking a break. Ms. Buchanan, this is Judge Bryan speaking. Will you raise your right hand and be sworn. LYNNE BUCHANAN, having been sworn under oath, testified as follows: THE COURT: Thank you. You may inquire, counsel. DIRECT EXAMINATION BY MS. MELL: Your name is again Lynne Buchanan; is that correct? Q Α Yes. You are an employee of the State of Washington? Α Yes. Employed with the Department of Labor & Industries? Q That is correct. Α

- Q Your current title, I am not sure I know what it is. Can 1
- you give me that? 2
- 3 Α Sure. I am an internal investigator.
- Have you been the employment standards program manager at 4
- Labor & Industries? 5
- Yes, I have in the past. 6 Α
- 7 Was that position different than an internal investigator?
- Α Oh, yes.
- Was it a management position?
- 10 Α It was -- yes, it was.
- What tier? Who did you report to, Joel or did you -- the 11 Q
- Director Joel Sacks or someone below him? 12
- I reported to someone below him. 13 Α
- Who was that? 14 Q
- 15 Α Elizabeth Smith.
- Is Elizabeth Smith the number two at the Department of 16
- 17 Labor & Industries in terms of hierarchy?
- She currently is on a team of number twos. 18 Α
- With regard to being an internal investigator, is that in 19
- the wage and hour division or some other part of Labor & 20
- Industries? 2.1
- 22 No, not in wage and hour. Part of human resources.
- 23 When you were the employment standards program manager,
- was that in the wage and hour division? 24
- Yes. 25 Α

- Q You moved to the internal investigator position because 1
- 2 the opportunity arose?
- I preferred it. 3 Α Yes.
- When you were in the employment standards program manager 4
- position, were you familiar with the Department of Labor & 5
- Industries' minimum wage and hour requirements for people in 6
- state custody? 7
- Minimally.
- Did you have a role with the enforcement of the Minimum
- 10 Wage Act?
- Yes, I was part of a team. 11
- As part of that team, did you process Minimum Wage Act 12
- complaints? 13
- No, I didn't process complaints. Are you talking about 14
- 15 when I was the manager?
- What was your involvement when you were a manager with 16
- 17 complaints that were specific to the Minimum Wage Act?
- So as the manager, I primarily reviewed work that was done 18
- by the field agents. 19
- All right. Did you monitor what cases the field agents 20
- got involved in? 21
- 22 Just some of them. If they had determined that there was
- 23 what was called an NOA, a notice of assessment, those types
- of things would come across my desk to review and look at 24
- those cases and make sure that a notice of assessment would 25

- be appropriate for an employer. That kind of a determination 1 2 was made when an employer owed wages for work that had been
- Are you familiar enough with the Minimum Wage Act because 4
- of your experience with working in the division that you 5

done by their employees. That was my primary job.

- worked in, employment standards, that there is an exception 6
- to the definition of "employee" for individuals in state 7
- custody? 8

- Not anymore. I haven't done that work for quite a long 9 time. 10
- As you sit here today, you have no recollection as to 11
- whether or not people in state custody are exempt from the 12
- Minimum Wage Act? 13
- You know, I am not that familiar with the laws or the 14
- 15 rules anymore. It has been several years since I have worked
- in that program. I would hate to try to quote something that 16
- 17 I am just really not very familiar with anymore.
- I wasn't asking you to quote it. Do you need to take a 18
- look at the statute to refresh your recollection? Would that 19
- help? 20
- 21 I don't have one handy.
- 22 Well, I do. I am going to try to pull one up here on the
- screen for you. 23
- MS. CHIEN: We object to this being published again. 24
- Same issue with the law being published. 25

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117
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THE COURT:
                         Yes, the objection is sustained.
 1
 2
             MS. CHIEN: I can check with support staff to see if
    Ms. Buchanan has access to Box, if that is what your
 3
    preference would be, Ms. Mell?
 4
             MS. MELL: Same statute. It is still in there.
 5
             MS. CHIEN: Ms. Buchanan, we are going to send you a
 6
 7
    link to box.com where the exhibits are going to be pulled up.
    I don't remember what exhibit number this is, Ms. Mell?
             THE WITNESS: Are you sending it by email?
10
             MS. CHIEN: We are going to send it via email.
                                                              Ιs
    that okay?
11
             THE WITNESS: Yeah, let me switch over to that. I am
12
    looking at my emails, but I am not seeing it.
13
             MS. CHIEN: We are going to send it to you in one
14
15
    second.
             THE WITNESS: RCW 49.46.010. Which part of this?
16
    BY MS. MELL:
17
        See where it defines "employee"?
    Q
18
    Α
        Yes.
19
        "Includes any individual employed by an employer but shall
20
    not include..."
21
22
        Yes, I see that.
23
        Do you see there is an exception listed, subsection (k),
     "Any resident, inmate or patient of a state, county or
24
25
    municipal correctional, detention, treatment or
```

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rehabilitative institution"?
1
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- Let me get down to that. Any resident, inmate, yes, I see 2
- 3 that.
- Does that refresh your recollection as to individuals in 4
- state custody being exempt from the Minimum Wage Act? 5
- Well, I know what it means, but it is not --6 Α
- What does it mean? 7 Q
- Well, it sounds like it means that they would not be
- included as an employee.
- In your -- let's get more specific about your time as 10 Q
- employment standards program manager. How many years were 11
- you doing that work? 12
- Not very long. Couple years. 13
- How much experience do you have with the Minimum Wage Act? 14 Q
- 15 I started with Labor & Industries in 2008. I worked with
- the Minimum Wage Act as an industrial relations agent and 16
- 17 just promoted up from there.
- So when you were doing that work specific to the Minimum 18
- Wage Act, did you have specific rules that interpreted that 19
- statute that you applied in your position? 20
- Yes. 21 Α
- 22 Did you have a definition for who L&I considered a
- resident of a state, county or municipal correctional, 23
- detention, treatment, or rehabilitative institution? 24
- 25 Α You know, those kinds of things didn't come up very often.

```
I mean, there is tons of rules for everything at Labor &
 1
 2
     Industries. Primarily, everyone that we received a wage
    complaint from was considered an employee and they were a
 3
     resident of Washington. We had very few cases that I recall
 4
     that came in outside of that parameter.
 5
        Is it your position the Department did not need to define
 6
    who was a resident of a state, county or municipal
 7
     correctional, detention or treatment or rehabilitative
 8
     institution to know how to apply the exception?
 9
                          Objection to form. Foundation.
10
             MR. BERGER:
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Objection.
11
             THE COURT:
                         The objection is sustained as to her
12
    position.
13
    BY MS. MELL:
14
        Did L&I not define who was a resident of a state, county
15
     or municipal correctional detention, treatment or
16
     rehabilitative institution because it didn't need one?
17
                         Objection, foundation.
             MS. CHIEN:
18
             THE COURT:
                         Sustained.
19
    BY MS. MELL:
20
        Did L&I define who it considered an inmate of a state,
21
     county or municipal correctional, detention, treatment or
22
23
     rehabilitative institution?
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Same objection.
24
             THE COURT:
                         She may answer if she knows.
25
```

```
THE WITNESS: You know, I think the 49.46.010, as it
 1
 2
    defines who is an employee and who is not an employee, that's
    what was followed. That's not necessarily an L&I rule.
 3
                                                               Ιt
    is a rule that is looked at by people in the wage and hour
 4
              L&I didn't write this. It is a rule that, of
 5
    program.
    course, people know about, and even though we didn't use any
 6
    kind of -- we didn't see people that were incarcerated filing
 7
    wage complaints on a frequent basis, and so that kind of
    thing just never came up very often.
    BY MS. MELL:
10
        Did it even come up at all?
11
    Q
        I don't remember if it ever did.
12
        Is it your recollection that it did not?
13
    Q
        I don't recall that it did. I can't say that it never
14
15
    did. You know, honestly, it has been a really long time
    since I worked in that program. I just don't -- I don't
16
17
    remember all of the cases that came up.
        Is it correct, then, that similarly L&I never previously
18
    defined who it considered a patient of a state, county or
19
    municipal correctional, detention, treatment or
20
    rehabilitative institution?
21
             MS. CHIEN: Objection, foundation.
22
             THE COURT: The objection is sustained.
23
    BY MS. MELL:
24
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As -- in your work in enforcing the Minimum Wage Act, did

25

Q

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you have a pretty good sense of who the people were that were
1
```

- 2 exempt under that provision without defining them more
- specifically? 3
- The people we typically would see that were exempt were 4
- independent contractors. They were not considered employees. 5
- That's what we saw more than any other that I can remember. 6
- There was a rule that you developed specifically to try to 7
- discern who was an independent contractor versus who was an
- employee, correct?
- I'm sorry. I don't remember that. 10
- Do you remember the economic realities test? 11 Q
- I know those words, but I couldn't describe it to you. 12 Ιt
- is complicated. I know that. 13
- Do you know it was so complicated you guys created a 14 Q
- formula to deal with that situation that was call --15
- MS. CHIEN: Objection. 16
- BY MS. MELL: 17
- -- that was the economic realities test? 18
- MS. CHIEN: Objection, calling for legal opinion. 19
- Legal conclusion. 20
- 21 THE COURT: The objection is sustained to the form of
- 22 the question.
- 23 BY MS. MELL:
- The economic realities test was a criteria you used to 24
- discern the difference between an independent contractor and 25

```
an employee, correct?
1
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- 2 Α Yes.
- And you developed an economic realities test so you could 3 investigate wage and hour complaints involving the difference 4 between an independent contractor and an employee, correct? 5
- MS. CHIEN: Objection, foundation. Ms. Mell is 6 7 trying to -- misstating the law and trying to get it in through a witness.
- THE COURT: The question assumes facts not in 9 evidence. 10
- BY MS. MELL: 11
- Did you use the economic realities test when you were at 12
- the Department? 13
- I am assuming that I did. 14 Α
- 15 Did you ever use it in the context of somebody in state
- confinement? 16
- 17 I don't remember if I did or not.
- Did you ever use that test and apply it to anyone at the 18
- Northwest ICE Processing Center? 19
- That name doesn't sound familiar to me. 20 Α
- Does the name "GEO" sound familiar to you? 21 ()
- I don't know what that is. 22 Α
- 23 Q Does L&I know there are people in custody in local jails?
- Yes. 24 Α
- 25 Q L&I does inspections in local jails, correct?

```
123
                             Buchanan - Direct
        I don't know.
                        I am not involved with inspections.
    Α
 1
 2
        With regard to local jails, L&I knows the Minimum Wage Act
    doesn't apply to any of those individuals in the local jail
 3
    preparing meals, correct?
 4
        Preparing meals? I don't know.
 5
        How about cleaning the toilets? Trustees in the local
 6
     jails who clean toilets in the local jails aren't covered by
 7
     the Minimum Wage Act?
             MS. CHIEN: Objection.
             THE COURT:
                         Sustained.
10
    BY MS. MELL:
11
        Have you ever processed a complaint by an inmate in the
12
     local jail where they wanted minimum wages for cleaning the
13
```

15 I don't think so.

toilet?

- Have you ever processed a complaint from an individual at 16
- 17 SCORE? Do you know what SCORE is?
- MS. CHIEN: Objection. 18
- THE COURT: That's two questions. 19
- MS. MELL: It is. 20
- BY MS. MELL: 21
- 22 Q Do you know what SCORE is?
- 23 Α No.
- Do you know there is a regional jail in South King County? 24 Q
- 25 MS. CHIEN: Objection. She just said she didn't

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124
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```
know.
 1
 2
             THE COURT: This is a different question. She may
 3
    answer.
             THE WITNESS: I am not aware of it.
 4
    BY MS. MELL:
 5
        Has L&I put any resources into ensuring that people
 6
    detained in jail doing work like cleaning the toilets or
 7
    preparing food get paid minimum wage?
             MR. BERGER: Objection, foundation.
             THE COURT: I think she may answer if she knows.
10
             THE WITNESS: I'm sorry, I don't know.
11
    BY MS. MELL:
12
        Were you ever involved -- did you ever allocate any of
13
    your time to that issue?
14
15
        I don't recall doing that. No.
        Do you ever recall allocating any of your time to
16
17
    ascertaining whether or not the detainees at the Northwest
    ICE Processing Center are covered by the Minimum Wage Act?
18
        Not that I can remember. I haven't been in that program
19
    for at least seven years. A lot of it, I just don't know. I
20
    just don't remember. I don't know how things have changed
21
22
    since I have been there. It is not even on the same floor
    anymore.
23
        Are you glad to be gone off that floor?
24
```

Yes. 25 Α

Buchanan - Direct

```
Q
        All right.
                    Exhibit A-109, I would like to have you take a
 1
 2
    look at, if you can. It is probably something you have to
    pull off your email.
 3
             THE WITNESS: Is it in the same email?
 4
             MS. CHIEN: We'll have to email it to you. What was
 5
    the number, counsel?
 6
 7
             MS. MELL: A-109.
             MS. CHIEN: I note this is an excluded exhibit.
 8
             THE COURT: Yes, I see that.
 9
    BY MS. MELL:
10
        Have you ever had an opportunity to review Exhibit A-109.
11
             MS. CHIEN: We have to email it, Ms. Mell.
12
    Ms. Buchanan, I think we might have sent it. You might want
13
    to check your email.
14
15
             THE WITNESS: Here, we just got it. Okay.
             MS. CHIEN: Sorry. It is the wrong one. One second.
16
17
    It would be helpful if we can get them in a batch.
             MS. MELL: Add A-107 and A-116. That would be
18
    helpful. Thank you.
19
             MS. CHIEN: All right. We can start with A-109 for
20
         We will get the others.
21
    now.
             MS. MELL: Yep, we can do that.
22
23
    BY MS. MELL:
```

I can't see it yet because we have a block on our

Exhibit A-109, what is that?

24

25

Α

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Buchanan - Direct
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```
Hopefully it brings up a preview and lets me look
 1
    computers.
 2
    at it.
            Right now --
             MS. CHIEN: We would object to Ms. Mell asking
 3
    Ms. Buchanan to identify an exhibit that's been excluded.
 4
             THE COURT: Did I already specifically rule on this
 5
    exhibit?
 6
             MS. CHIEN: Yes.
 7
             MS. MELL: Your Honor, your ruling was always subject
 8
    to what happens at trial, and refreshing the witness's
 9
    recollection is laying a foundation as to the question that
10
    you did not exclude me from asking.
11
             THE COURT: Well, you can ask her to review the
12
    exhibit, but don't show it to anybody. We will see if it is
13
    offered and admitted or whatever. For now, she can look at
14
15
    it, if that's the question. What is your question?
    BY MS. MELL:
16
17
        What is it?
                         Objection. Objection, Your Honor. This
             MS. CHIEN:
18
    is an excluded exhibit. Her identifying an excluded exhibit,
19
    we think goes against the Court's previous order. We are
20
    happy to have her review Exhibit 109. We don't believe it
21
    should be identified.
22
23
             THE WITNESS:
                           Unfortunately, I am not able to review
    it.
24
```

THE COURT: Well, there you go. What is the next

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question?
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MS. MELL: I guess I want to make a record that I am not going to be permitted to show the exhibit to the witness and use it to refresh her recollection because she can't get the exhibit in the manner in which I was asked to deliver it to her. Do we have a workaround here where somebody could give it to her?

MS. CHIEN: Ms. Buchanan is not in our office.

MS. MELL: She's in Department of Labor & Industries.

Can somebody hand her the exhibit?

THE WITNESS: I am not in the Department of Labor & Industries. I am working from home in Spokane.

MS. CHIEN: Ms. Buchanan, just so I understand, are you unable to open the attachment? Is that's what is going on?

THE WITNESS: That is correct. We have advanced threat protection and it won't open. It is an outside attachment. I was hoping to see a preview of it, but I can't get it to even show me that.

THE COURT: Okay. We are wasting time dealing with this, counsel. The objection is fairly taken. Go on to something else.

23 BY MS. MELL:

Q Did you, during your time with L&I when you were working on the Minimum Wage Act, ever communicate to GEO that it

```
needed to comply with the Minimum Wage Act for its ICE work
 1
 2
    program at the Northwest ICE Processing Center?
                          Objection, foundation, relevance.
 3
             MS. CHIEN:
             THE COURT:
                          Sustained.
 4
    BY MS. MELL:
 5
        During your tenure with L&I when you were dealing with the
 6
     Minimum Wage Act, did L&I take an official position with
 7
     regard to the application of the Minimum Wage Act to the
 8
     detainees ICE held at the Northwest ICE Processing Center?
                          Objection.
10
             MS. CHIEN:
             THE COURT:
                         Sustained.
11
    BY MS. MELL:
12
        Did L&I make a determination in March of 2014 that L&I
13
    had --
14
                          Objection.
15
             MS. CHIEN:
             MR. BERGER:
                           Objection.
16
17
             THE COURT:
                          The objection is sustained.
    BY MS. MELL:
18
        Did L&I enforce the Minimum Wage Act against the federal
19
    government?
20
        We primarily dealt with state employees that were
21
22
    considered to be employees through the Minimum Wage Act.
23
    Federal issues were not part of our -- were not part of what
    we did.
24
                         I have nothing further, Your Honor.
25
             MS. MELL:
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```
THE COURT:
                         Cross?
 1
 2
        No further questions of this witness?
        Thank you, Ms. Buchanan. You may be excused.
 3
             THE WITNESS: Thank you, Your Honor.
 4
             THE COURT: You may call your next witness.
 5
             MS. MELL: I am. It is Ms. Sytsma, please.
 6
 7
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Your Honor, are you anticipating an
 8
    afternoon break today?
 9
             THE COURT: Usually about 2:25.
             MS. SCHEFFEY: I was wondering if it would make sense
10
    to do this while we work out the logistics of this witness.
11
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Sorry. I missed --
12
             THE COURT: Is it going to take some time to get the
13
    witness up?
14
15
             MS. CHIEN: Might take like two minutes or so. I am
    not sure --
16
17
             THE COURT:
                         Oh, well.
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Ms. Chien, we also had documents
18
    couriered to your office. Paper copies.
19
             MS. CHIEN: We might have to double check that.
20
                         The witness has just arrived. She's
21
             THE CLERK:
22
    being admitted at the moment.
23
             THE COURT:
                         Okay.
             MS. CHIEN: Let me check -- a courier came?
24
             MS. SCHEFFEY: They delivered hard copies.
25
                                                         If not,
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Sytsma - Direct
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1 they are in the Box.
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- MS. CHIEN: Yes, it is confirmed. She has whatever you courried over.
- THE COURT: Ms. Sytsma, if you would raise your right hand and be sworn.
- 6 SARAH SYTSMA,
- 7 having been sworn under oath, testified as follows:
- 8 DIRECT EXAMINATION
- 9 BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
- 10 Q Good afternoon. Can you see and hear me okay?
- 11 A I can.
- 12 Q Could you state your name for the record. I want to make
- 13 | sure I am saying it right.
- 14 A Sarah Sytsma.
- 15 Q You work for Washington Department of Corrections, right?
- 16 A Correct.
- 17 | Q In 2019, you were named the Director of Correctional
- 18 Industries, correct?
- 19 | A Yes.
- 20 Q You have over 25 years of experience in corrections?
- 21 A 20 years.
- 22 Q The Department of Corrections is required to provide safe
- 23 and secure housing for those that are detained, correct?
- 24 A Correct.
- 25 Q It houses both individuals held on detainer after they

- served their sentence and also those convicted of crimes, 1
- 2 correct?
- I know those convicted of crimes. 3
- We will get to the next one afterward. Correctional 4
- Industries describes itself as a unique blend of business and 5
- government? 6
- Yes. 7 Α
- In Correctional Industries, those who are detained across
- the State of Washington work in various facilities, right?
- Yes. 10 Α
- You would agree those programs and other work programs 11
- that allow detained individuals to stay busy are beneficial 12
- to those people who are confined, correct? 13
- Α Correct. 14
- 15 In your over 20 years of experience, are you aware of any
- detention facility in the State of Washington that does not 16
- 17 provide the opportunity for detained individuals to stay
- busy? 18
- Not within our DOC facilities. 19
- In the State of Washington, detained individuals can 20
- participate in a class of worker called Class II work, 21
- correct? 22
- 23 Yes, our incarcerated individuals, CI oversees Class II
- programs. 24
- That work involves producing goods and services that are 25 Q

- sold to generate funds for Correctional Industries, right? 1
- 2 Many of the programs, yes.
- 3 Q Those who perform that work while detained are not paid
- minimum wages, correct? 4
- Currently, that is correct. 5 Α
- Q There are also Class III positions, right? 6
- Yes. 7 Α
- People who participate in Class III positions complete
- tasks inside the facility where they are detained, right?
- Yes. 10 Α
- They help with food service? 11 Q
- There are some Class III positions, correct. 12 Α
- They help with the laundry? 13 Q
- Class II. 14 Α
- 15 Q Class II. What about maintenance, they help with
- maintenance? 16
- 17 Maintenance is Class II -- excuse me, Class III.
- They clean their cells and common areas; is Class III. 18
- that right? 19
- Yeah, Class III -- in our Class II programs we do have --20
- part of their day may be cleaning up before the end of the 21
- 22 dav.
- 23 They clean bathrooms that are used by many people who they
- live with, right? 24
- That's mainly a Class III, although there are some Class 25 Α

```
II programs that may clean restrooms. In Class II, it
1
```

- 2 wouldn't be restrooms of the incarcerated.
- 3 Q In Class III, it would be restrooms of the detained
- people, correct? 4
- A Yes. 5
- MS. CHIEN: For clarity, it is not "detained." It is 6
- not "detainees." 7
- MS. SCHEFFEY: Marsha, I don't think you are 8
- testifying right now. I don't think you should instruct the 9
- 10 witness.
- MS. CHIEN: I am trying to clarify your language. 11
- MS. SCHEFFEY: I don't think it is proper. 12
- May I proceed, Your Honor? 13
- THE COURT: I am waiting for you. 14
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 15
- Those people in Class III, they clean the showers that are 16
- 17 used by other people who they live with?
- I want to clarify, I do not oversee Class III Correct. 18 Α
- programs. I would only be speculating. 19
- Okay. What about Class II, do they clean showers? 20
- Α No. 21
- 22 Do prisoners serving life without parole participate in
- work programs in the State of Washington? 23
- Within a CI program, we do have some LWOP incarcerated in 24
- 25 the program.

- Those people participate in the work programs even though 1 Q
- 2 they have no chance of release, correct?
- Correct. Some. 3 Α
- None of those individuals receive minimum wages for their 4
- 5 participation, correct?
- Α Correct. 6
- 7 So you would agree that detainees who work in Class II and
- Class III work at Washington State prisons for subminimum
- wages, correct?
- Our incarcerated work for a gratuity. 10
- I know you stated that you -- just now that you had no 11
- knowledge of Class III positions. Do you recall giving a 12
- deposition in this case? 13
- I do. 14 Α
- 15 Do you have a copy of that in front of you, by any chance?
- There is a packet in front of me. 16
- 17 You can open that, if you want. I am going to have you --
- I know I was asking you about your deposition. Now that I am 18
- seeing the packet, I will have you shift gears. Can you find 19
- Exhibit A-25? Might be A-025. 20
- A-025? 21 Α
- 22 Q Yes.
- 23 Α I see A-023.
- There should also be A-025. I don't know --24 Q
- Sorry. Can I clarify with staff? 25 MS. CHIEN:

```
MS. SCHEFFEY:
                            If not, Marsha, could you get her a
 1
 2
    copy of A-025 printed?
 3
             MS. CHIEN: Can we have a staff go in there and help
    her look for it. Was it in the courier packet --
 4
             MS. SCHEFFEY: It should have been. I am going to
 5
    admit I did not put it together myself. It was on the list.
 6
             THE COURT: It is time for a break. We will take ten
 7
    or 15 minutes, folks. You may be excused. You can get your
 8
    exhibit business together during the break, hopefully.
10
             MS. SCHEFFEY:
                            Thank you.
                              (Recessed.)
11
      (The following occurred outside the presence of the jury.)
12
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Counsel, we just gave Ms. Sytsma all of
13
    the exhibits in binder form. We still haven't gotten the
14
15
    return courier thing, just FYI.
             THE COURT: Are we ready to proceed?
16
17
             MS. CHIEN: We seem to have a fire alarm.
             THE COURT: We are not having any more fires today.
18
             MS. CHIEN:
                         Sorry. One second. I think we have
19
20
    gotten a pass from this.
             THE COURT: Are we ready for the jury? You can bring
21
22
    the jury in. The witness is present.
         (The following occurred in the presence of the jury.)
23
             THE COURT: One of the bad things about the system is
24
    your positions on my screen keep changing. As part of the
25
```

```
Sytsma - Direct
```

```
Zoom platform, I had hoped as time goes on everybody would
 1
 2
     stay in the same block on the screen so we can keep track of
    each other better.
 3
        All right. You may continue, Ms. Scheffey.
 4
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Thank you, Your Honor.
 5
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
 6
 7
    Q
        Do you have Exhibit A-025 in front of you?
    Α
        Yes.
        State of Washington Department of Corrections?
10
    Α
        Yes.
        Do you recognize this type of document?
11
    Q
        I do.
12
    Α
        Is this maintained by Department of Corrections?
13
    Q
    Α
        Yes.
14
15
    Q
        Is it regularly updated?
        They are.
                   This last one -- this is actually an old
16
17
    version. There was an update in 2019. A next update in
    2022.
18
             MS. SCHEFFEY: I would offer this exhibit into
19
    evidence.
20
                          No objection.
21
             MS. CHIEN:
22
             MR. BERGER: No objection.
23
             THE COURT: All right. It may be admitted.
```

25

(Exhibit A-025 was admitted.)

```
1 BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
```

- 2 Q What is this document?
- 3 A This is policy 710-400. It is Correctional Industries and
- 4 it is over Class II employment.
- 5 Q I would like to go to the second page marked WA00011236.
- 6 Do you see where it says "policy" at the top?
- 7 A I do.
- 8 Q Section 3, it states that Class II employment is voluntary
- 9 for offenders; is that correct?
- 10 A Correct.
- 11 Q Is that still the policy for Class II employment?
- 12 A Yes.
- 13 Q Class II employment is available to anyone who is detained
- 14 within Department of Corrections system; is that accurate?
- 15 A Yes, if they meet certain qualifications.
- 16 Q If we keep going to the page marked -- it is the third
- page, I believe, of the document, Bates No. WA00011237. Do
- 18 | you see that?
- 19 | A Yes.
- 20 Q In the middle it says "industry responsibility." Do you
- 21 | see that section?
- 22 | A I do.
- 23 Q It states that each Class II business will maintain
- 24 | written job descriptions; is that accurate?
- 25 A Yes.

- Is that still the policy for Class II employment? Q 1
- Α Yes. 2
- For detainees who participate in Class II programs, they 3
- receive a written job description before they participate? 4
- So, again, you are referring to them as "detainees." Our 5
- language is "incarcerated individuals." I don't believe they 6
- are each provided a position description. It is not handed 7
- They can obtain that information with their 8
- correctional counselors.
- I think you just made a distinction between the language I 10
- am using and what you use. You used "incarcerated 11
- individuals"? 12
- Yes. 13 Α
- Are those individuals who are held under the authority of 14
- 15 the State of Washington?
- Α Yes. 16
- 17 Are they free to come and go from the facilities where
- they are held? 18
- No, they are not. 19
- They are confined to the location where the State of 20
- Washington sends them; is that correct? 21
- Correct. 22 Α
- I would like you to turn to, I guess it is Page 23
- WA00011239. It should be the fifth page of that document. 24
- There is a Section C, which starts with "each CI class 25

- business will establish a fair recruitment and hiring 1
- process." Do you see that? 2
- I do. 3 Α
- Is it accurate that individuals that want to participate 4
- in Class II opportunities have to interview before they do 5
- so? 6
- 7 A Yes, they do.
- If they want to work, they have to do a skills assessment;
- is that correct?
- Yeah, they fill out an application. 10
- They have to establish that they have prior experience; is 11
- that accurate? 12
- Yeah. Yes, for some of our positions. We really -- we do 13
- have a requirement that they have to have a high school 14
- 15 diploma or GED. If they don't, at least be working on it
- simultaneously. 16
- 17 I would like to go to the next page, which is WA000011243,
- Section C that says "offender pay rates." You see that 18
- section? 19
- I do. 20 Α
- As I read that, offenders are paid between 55 cents and a 21
- 1.60 per hour for participating in the program? 22
- 23 Α That has been updated in the new policy.
- When was the new policy enacted? 24 Q
- In 2019. 25 Α

- Q What is the amount now? 1
- It went up ten cents, 65 cents to 1.70. 2 Α
- This document was updated in 2014, correct? 3 Q
- This was updated -- the one I am looking at was 2014. 4 We
- have a more current of 2019. 5
- From 2014 to 2019, were the numbers you see on the screen 6
- accurate? 7
- I know when I came into my position we were paying the
- probation rate at 65 cents per hour in 2019.
- The current rate is still less than minimum wage, correct? 10 Q
- The current rate for Class II starts out at 65 Correct. 11
- cents an hour up to 1.70. 12
- I believe you testified earlier that some Class II 13 Q
- employment is in laundry rooms; is that correct? 14
- 15 That's correct. All of laundry is Class II.
- Sorry. What was the end of that answer? 16
- 17 All laundry is managed by CI and Class II.
- Class II work that is paid at 65 cents an hour; is that 18
- correct? 19
- 65 up to 1.70. Α 20
- You also testified earlier that Class II work involves 21
- food services; is that accurate? 22
- It does involve food service. 23
- The food service work involves helping prepare meals in an 24 Q
- industrial kitchen; is that accurate? 25

```
Sytsma - Direct
```

- Α Yes. 1
- 2 That work is also compensated between 65 cents and 1.75 an
- hour? 3
- Correct. Α 4
- I would like you to take a look at Exhibit A-031. 5 My tech
- team can take the other one down. Do you have it in front of 6
- you now? 7
- I do.
- Do you recognize this document?
- No. I recognize that it is a policy. 10 Α
- Is this a policy maintained by Department of Corrections? 11 Q
- Yes. 12 Α
- Does it look like the last policy you looked at? 13 Q
- This is the -- looking at the title, this is Class III 14 Α
- 15 offender employment.
- Is this the type of policy that is typically maintained by 16
- 17 Department of Corrections?
- It is the template of our policies, yes. 18 Α
- It is signed that it is approved here on the front page; 19
- is that correct? 20
- Α Correct. 21
- MS. SCHEFFEY: Offer to admit Exhibit A-031. 22
- MS. CHIEN: We object. Ms. Sytsma only knows Class I 23
- and II, that's what she testified to. She doesn't recognize 24
- 25 this policy.

```
Sytsma - Direct
             MS. SCHEFFEY:
                             She testified it is the type of policy
 1
 2
     maintained by the DOC, regularly updated and it is signed.
                          Recognizes the format.
 3
             MS. CHIEN:
             THE COURT:
                         Do you have some serious objection that
 4
 5
    that is not what it purports to be?
             MS. CHIEN:
                         No, this isn't the witness --
 6
             THE COURT: A-31 may be admitted.
 7
                      (Exhibit A-31 was admitted.)
 8
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
 9
        So as part of your job in the Department of Corrections
10
    overseeing Class II workers, you have knowledge about Class
11
     III workers and Class I workers; is that correct?
12
        I have knowledge about Class I and Class II workers.
                                                                CI
13
    does not have oversight of Class III workers.
14
15
        Although you don't have oversight over them, you
    understand the differences between the different classes; is
16
17
    that correct?
        I have some knowledge of the differences.
18
        One of those differences is the rate of pay; is that
    correct?
        That's correct.
21
    Α
```

- 19
- 20
- Class III workers -- if we can turn to Page WA00011101. 22
- It is true Class III workers do not qualify for an amount in 23
- excess of \$55 a month as a stipend; is that correct? 24
- 25 Α Yeah, that's what I am reading, yes.

```
Sytsma - Direct
        And they -- Class II workers cannot earn more than $55 per
 1
 2
     month even if they work over 40 hours each week; is that
 3
    correct?
             MR. BERGER: Objection, I believe you meant to refer
 4
    to Class III.
 5
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Yes.
                                   Sorry. Class III workers.
 6
 7
             THE WITNESS: Can you repeat the question?
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
 8
        Class III workers can't make more than $55 a month even if
 9
     they work over 40 hours a week; is that correct?
10
             MS. CHIEN:
                          Objection, foundation.
11
             THE COURT:
                          The exhibit is in evidence. If she's
12
     just reading the exhibit, the objection is sustained. If she
13
    has some personal knowledge, she can answer the question.
14
15
             THE WITNESS: I have no personal knowledge.
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
16
17
        We can take that down. The Class II workers get overtime?
        Yes.
18
    Α
        How much is their overtime?
    Q
19
        Time and a half.
20
    Α
    Ŋ
        So --
21
22
        Over 40 hours.
```

For someone who is working over 40 hours a week, for every

hour over 40 hours, they get about \$3; is that accurate?

Depending on which level they are at, they could.

23

24

25

Α

```
1 Q They are not going to get more than $3 an hour?
```

- 2 A Time and a half.
- Q I understand math. I am not trying to do it exactly either.
- Can detainees be terminated from the correctional industry program?
 - A Incarcerated workers can be terminated.
- 8 Q For what reasons?
- 9 A They could be terminated for infractions.
- 10 Q When you say "infractions," what does that mean?
- 11 A Infractions ranging from anything -- they could be
- 12 infracted from theft from our own program to drug
- 13 infractions. Any type of infraction they receive from the
- 14 facility.

- Q What about for not following an officer's orders?
- 16 A I mean, so when they receive infractions, it really is
- dependent on what the infraction is for. We look at all of
- them, each of them. I can't specifically answer yes or no.
- 19 We would have to look at the infraction.
- 20 Q Is there a safety and security reason offenders would need
- 21 to be terminated for inappropriate behavior such as stealing?
- 22 A There could be.
- 23 Q What kind of reason?
- 24 A If it is theft, I mean in our program, we are teaching
- skills -- soft skills are just as equally important as

```
technical skills.
                      If it is theft, well, theft would be a
1
```

- 2 security issue. Definitely depending on what they may be
- stealing, it could be used for strong arm or anything back in 3
- their unit. 4
- Thank you. Could you turn to Exhibit 22. 5
- MS. CHIEN: A-22? 6
- 7 MS. SCHEFFEY: A-22. My fault.
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 8
- Do you have it in front of you?
- 10 Α I do.
- Do you recognize this document? 11
- I have not personally seen this document. 12
- Have you seen any -- is there a document you give to 13 Q
- incarcerated individuals which gives them orientation on the 14
- 15 system?
- Not that CI does. 16
- 17 Does the Department of Corrections give it?
- I believe they do. Α 18
- You have 20 years of experience in Department of 19
- Corrections, right? 20
- Yes, I do. 21 Α
- 22 Are you aware the Department of Corrections gives a
- state-wide inmate orientation handbook? 23
- Yeah, I know they give one out. I have not looked at 24
- this. 25

```
1 Q You have not looked at this. Does -- do you have any
```

- 2 reason to believe this is not the Department of Corrections
- 3 | state-wide orientation handbook?
- 4 A No, I have no reason not to believe that.
- 5 Q Does this appear to be a regularly maintained Department
- of Corrections orientation handbook?
- 7 A Not seeing one, I would believe so.
- 8 MS. SCHEFFEY: I offer to admit this in evidence.
- 9 MS. CHIEN: We object. The witness doesn't recognize
- 10 | this document.
- THE COURT: It is not sufficiently identified at this
- 12 point.
- 13 BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
- 14 Q One of the goals of corrections is to allow inmates to
- 15 | live in a safe and secure facility, correct?
- 16 A Correct.
- 17 | Q Do you agree audits help achieve this goal?
- 18 A I would imagine.
- 19 Q If the orientation handbook said audits help achieve that
- 20 goal, would you have any reason to doubt that?
- 21 MR. BERGER: Objection to form.
- THE COURT: The objection is sustained.
- 23 BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
- 24 | Q Is it important in your position for facility operations
- 25 to be consistent throughout Department of Corrections?

```
Facility operations?
   Α
1
```

- 2 Why don't I rephrase my question. Is it important
- for you that everyone who participates in the Correctional 3
- Industries program has the same opportunities regardless of 4
- which state facility where they are held? 5
- Yeah. 6 Α
- 7 Uniformity in applying those rules for Correctional
- Industries is important; is that correct?
- It is correct. 9
- That would also go to the pay rates of those individuals 10
- who participate in Correctional Industries, you would want 11
- those to be uniform regardless of where someone is held, 12
- correct? 13
- I want uniformity within CI. 14
- CI serves something like 20 or more different institutions 15
- across the state, correct? 16
- 17 Α 12.
- 12. Okay. Among those 12 institutions that you serve, 18
- you would want every inmate in any of those facilities to 19
- have the same opportunity to earn that rate of pay, correct? 20
- I would want Class II industries that I oversee to be 21
- 22 consistent within their levels of pay, that is correct.
- When you say you want Class II, there are Class II inmates 23
- at more than one institution across the state, correct? 24
- We have Correctional Industries operations in 11 of our 25 Α

- facilities. I would want them to all be consistent. 1
- 2 What 11 facilities are those?
- We have the Washington State Penitentiary, the Coyote 3
- Ridge, Airway Heights Corrections Center, Clallam Bay 4
- Corrections Center, Stafford Creek Corrections Center, 5
- Washington Corrections Center, Washington Corrections Center 6
- for Women, Monroe Correctional Complex, Larch Corrections 7
- Center, Olympic Corrections Center and Mission Creek
- Corrections Center for Women.
- You mentioned Airway Heights Correction Center; is that 10
- right? 11
- I did. 12 Α
- Can you look at Exhibit A-128? 13 Q
- 128? 14 Α
- Is this an Airway Heights Correction Center offender 15
- job description? 16
- 17 That's what it says at the top, "offender job
- responsibilities." 18
- Does this look like a job description maintained by Airway 19
- Heights for Class II industries? 20
- This does not look like a Class II. I am looking at the 21 Α
- 22 position, the position on it. Hobby craft.
- Why does it not look like a Class II job description? 23
- Hobby craft is not something that Class II oversees. 24 Α
- Who would oversee that? 25 Q

- 1 A I believe Class III. I believe that would be a prisons
- 2 job.
- 3 Q So you do have an idea of the distinction between
- 4 | Correctional Industry jobs and Class III?
- 5 A I do. I know what jobs fall in Class II.
- 6 Q Tell me what jobs fall in Class III or that you would know
- 7 | would not be a Class II job description so I can know what
- 8 types of jobs.
- 9 A I can't -- for Class III, I wouldn't be able to answer
- 10 that.
- 11 | Q How do you know the thing you are looking at is not a
- 12 Class III job?
- 13 A I know hobby craft equipment room worker is not a position
- 14 within Class II that I oversee.
- 15 Q If this was an older document, would you have any
- 16 knowledge, before your time in 2019, Class II positions?
- $17 \mid A \mid If this was before my time in '19, that is correct, I$
- 18 | wouldn't know.
- 19 Q Let's see if we can figure out what the jobs are in Class
- 20 II. Can you try looking at Exhibit 152.
- 21 MR. BERGER: A-152?
- MS. SCHEFFEY: Sorry. A-152.
- 23 A I see it.
- 24 Q Does this look like a job description for a Class II
- 25 worker?

- 1 A No.
- 2 Q Why not?
- 3 | A We don't supervise janitors, yeah. We don't have floor
- 4 and dayroom janitors.
- 5 Q Do you know if there are inmates incarcerated within the
- 6 DOC that perform dayroom janitor positions?
- 7 A I don't believe -- no. For Class II? Sorry.
- 8 Q No, just within the Department of Corrections. Have you
- 9 visited any of the facilities in Department of Corrections?
- 10 A I have.
- 11 | Q Have you observed people working in those facilities?
- 12 A I have.
- 13 | Q Do you know if any of the people who work in those
- 14 | facilities perform janitor duties, sweeping, mopping the
- 15 | floor, wiping the tables?
- 16 A They do.
- 17 | Q You know that is a job. Next question, is that job Class
- 18 | II or Class III?
- 19 A Class III.
- 20 Q I think you testified earlier Class III does not pay
- 21 | minimum wage, correct?
- 22 A Correct.
- 23 | Q Let's see if I can find a Class II exhibit in here. Can
- 24 | you look at A-129?
- 25 | A I am looking at 129.

- Have you seen a document like this before? Q 1
- Is it the document that says "mandatory waiting list"? 2
- 3 Q Yes.
- I have not seen that document. 4
- Is this a mandatory waiting list for the Class II 5
- positions? 6
- There is a volunteer waiting list.
- Tell me about the volunteer waiting list for Class II
- positions?
- When our incarcerated go through the screening process 10
- applying for jobs, there are waiting lists created by their 11
- counselor. They are able to go in and pull names from the 12
- waiting lists. 13
- Do you pull names in order or do you pull based on who you 14
- 15 prefer?
- I can't answer that. I have general managers at each site 16
- 17 that work with those waiting lists. I am not specific on the
- process. 18
- Is it typical that there is a waiting list for Class II 19
- positions? 20
- For some positions, not all. Our goal would be a waiting 21
- list. 22
- Why would your goal be a waiting list? 23
- So we know people are wanting to sign up for programs and 24
- so we can plan accordingly. 25

```
Sytsma - Direct
```

Q Why do you want to have people interested in signing up 1

- for the programs? 2
- Because we believe our program makes a difference within 3
- reentry. We are excited to get our incarcerated in there and 4
- start working on programming, technical and soft skills to 5
- prepare them for release. 6
- 7 You also allow people who have life without parole to
- participate in the programs?
- Yes, there are some. 9
- Do you believe it has a benefit for those people? 10 Q
- I do. 11 Α
- What is that benefit? 12 Q
- If we can get some individuals who are at the facilities 13
- for a long time that, A, it helps mentor. They can help 14
- 15 mentor the others who are getting out. We look at -- it
- gives them a benefit of being able to learn skills. Helps 16
- 17 with idleness. We are looking at them to help mentor others
- that come into our program. 18
- I understand the benefit to the State of having workers 19
- 20 who are experienced and aren't going to leave. What is the
- 21 benefit to the incarcerated person who is not going to be
- 22 able to reenter society?
- 23 It gives them a sense of accomplishment. It gives them a
- sense of doing good things. They are able to keep busy. 24
- 25 They are able to earn a gratuity. There is things that they

```
need gratuity for. If they want to purchase from commissary
1
```

- When you say "gratuity," do you mean a payment? Q
- Yeah, that's the pay scale, gratuity scale. Their hourly, 4
- 5 what we pay them hourly.

and things of that nature.

2

- You think those detainees get a sense of accomplishment 6 even if they are doing something like cleaning the toilets in 7 the bathroom?
- MS. CHIEN: Objection.
- THE COURT: You are asking for what many, many 10 hundreds of people think about something. I don't know how 11 this witness can answer that. 12
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 13
- Do you know about the mandatory deductions from Class II 14 15 worker pay?
- Yes, we have mandatory deductions. 16
- 17 Is it accurate to say those are the type of deductions
- that may be taken from the amount they receive for 18
- participating in work programs before they actually get that 19
- payment; is that right? 20
- Yes. 21 Α
- 22 Taken out kind of like taxes might be before I get my
- paycheck, they are already taken out? 23
- Correct. 24 Α
- One of those is a cost of incarceration fee, correct? 25 Q

```
Sytsma - Direct
```

```
Yes.
    Α
1
```

- What is that fee for? 2
- 3 Α Covers cost of incarceration. I don't know the specifics.
- It is the cost of incarcerating. I couldn't tell you the 4
- 5 specific breakdown of that.
- Does that fee go back to the state? 6 Q
- 7 I don't know where the fee goes.
- Does it go back to Correctional Industries?
- I don't know. I'm sorry. I don't know where the fee 9
- 10 actually goes.
- Another deduction is the department debt, correct? 11
- I am not -- the fees, I don't know. I am not -- the 12
- breakdown of the deductions, there is several deductions. 13
- Child support, crime victim, mandatory savings account. I 14
- can't name all the deductions. 15
- Why don't you just take a look at Exhibit 22, Page 16
- 17 WA00011499 and see if that refreshes your recollection?
- MS. CHIEN: A-22? 18
- MS. SCHEFFEY: A-22. Sorry. 19
- THE WITNESS: A-22. What is the number? 20
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 21
- 00011499. 22 Q
- MS. CHIEN: Your Honor, the witness didn't recognize 23
- this document. 24
- MS. SCHEFFEY: She has stated she knows --25

```
Sytsma - Direct
             THE COURT: What is the question to the witness?
 1
 2
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Asking if it refreshes her
    recollection. She stated she is aware of the mandatory
 3
    deductions taken out. I am asking her if this document helps
 4
    her remember.
 5
             THE COURT: She may answer that question.
 6
             THE WITNESS: WA000149, did you say 6?
 7
             MS. SCHEFFEY: 499. I just lost it. My PDF is
 8
    freezing up.
 9
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
10
        WA00011528. It is the top number. Does this document
11
    refresh your recollection about the types of mandatory
12
    deductions?
13
        I do see the deductions on here.
14
15
        Does it help you remember the different types?
        Well, I have read this several times in the statute, so
16
17
    yes.
        Is one of those deductions a department debt?
18
        Yes.
19
    Α
        The department debt deduction allows the Department of
20
    Corrections to take out funds for detainees' medical and
21
    dental services, correct?
22
```

- 23 That's what shows on here, yes.
- Also what it says in the statute you said you read? 24 Q
- I don't recollect. 25 Α

```
Do you have any reason to believe that is not accurate?
   Q
1
```

- No, I don't have any reason not to believe. 2
- Also allows the Department of Corrections to take out 3 Q
- money for hygiene supplies such as soap and shampoo, correct? 4
- Yes, that's what it says on here. 5
- Those deductions are intended to offset the cost of 6 Q
- 7 housing individuals to the taxpayers, right?
- MS. CHIEN: Objection. 8
- THE COURT: Objection is sustained. Intended by 9
- whom? 10
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 11
- Does Correctional Industries have a purpose of offsetting 12
- some of the cost of incarceration to taxpayers? 13
- To reduce the burden to taxpayers. 14 Α
- 15 If Correctional Industries does not recoup those debts,
- ultimately the cost falls on the taxpayer, right? 16
- 17 Α Can you --
- Objection, foundation. MS. CHIEN: 18
- MS. SCHEFFEY: I will rephrase. 19
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 20
- If Correctional Industries doesn't meet its goal to reduce 21
- 22 the burden on the taxpayer, the cost of incarceration is
- 23 borne by taxpayers in Washington, correct?
- MS. CHIEN: Objection, foundation. 24
- THE COURT: Sustained. 25

Sytsma - Direct

```
MS. SCHEFFEY: She's the Director of Correctional
 1
 2
     Industries. She said this is their stated goal.
             THE COURT: I know what she is.
 3
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
 4
        Will you turn to Exhibit 54 in your packet?
 5
             MS. CHIEN: A-54.
 6
 7
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Exhibit A-54.
             THE WITNESS: Okay.
 8
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
        Do you know what this is?
10
    Q
        Yes, annual report.
11
    Α
        What is it an annual report for?
12
    Q
        Correctional industries.
13
    Α
        Are you the Director of Correctional Industries?
14
    Q
        I am.
15
    Α
        Is this a report that Correctional Industries makes every
16
17
    year?
        It is, yes.
18
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Offer to admit Exhibit A-54.
19
             MS. CHIEN: No objection.
20
             MR. BERGER: No objection.
21
             THE COURT: It may be admitted.
22
23
                      (Exhibit A-54 was admitted.)
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
24
        If you could turn to Page WA00010152. The second
25
    Q
```

Sytsma - Direct

- paragraph right there, if we could blow it up, looks like
- 2 | Correctional Industries ended with total sales -- I can
- 3 | barely read it, \$114 million, a little over \$114 million at
- 4 the end of the year?
- 5 A That's what it says, yes.
- 6 Q Do you know what the annual sales were this year?
- 7 A We are just finishing up the year so I don't know yet.
- 8 **No**.
- 9 Q Were they significantly less than \$115 million?
- 10 A I am not sure yet.
- 11 Q What about last year in 2020?
- 12 A I believe they were less, but I did not refresh my memory
- on that.
- 14 | Q Is it typically in the hundred million dollar range?
- 15 A For sales? Yes.
- 16 Q Let's go to WA00010157. Are you there?
- $17 \mid A \mid I \mid am, yes.$
- 18 | Q At the bottom that indicates the total assets at the end
- of the year, total assets of Correctional Industries is \$55
- 20 million?
- 21 A Yes.
- 22 | Q Is that somewhat similar to your total assets right now?
- 23 A It should be close to that. That's assets. So that would
- 24 be -- includes inventories and furniture, equipment, what you
- 25 | see on the page.

- Let's break that down. Inventories, when you talk about 1
- 2 inventories and furniture, furniture built by the Class II
- workers? 3
- That could be part of the inventory. Raw material on hand 4
- would be part of inventories. Items in process could be some 5
- finished goods. 6
- 7 Raw materials at hand, are you buying furniture for
- inmates to put together?
- We -- for raw materials we purchase steel, wood products. 9
- There are some goods that are purchased. I couldn't tell you 10
- off the top of my head for incarcerated to assemble. 11
- All of that inventory would be put together by subminimum 12
- wage work, correct? 13
- It would be. They would be paid the Class II gratuity 14
- 15 rate.
- That's less than the minimum wage, correct? 16 Q
- 17 Α Correct.
- What is the highest rate that is right now? 18 Q
- In the facilities, it is \$1.10. Α 19
- Can we go to WA00010163? 20 Q
- Will you say that number again? 21 Α
- Yeah, I have to say it for myself, too. 00010163. 22 Q
- 23 I want to go back. I believe I misstated the amount.
- They are paid up to \$1.70. 24
- Thank you. This document says there are 25 Class II 25 Q

- Earlier, you testified there is only 12? programs. 1
- No, I said there were only 12 facilities. 2
- Okay. 12 facilities, but some facilities have multiple 3 Q
- programs? 4
- Yes. 5
- Across those 12 facilities, there is about 2,500 workers 6
- that are incarcerated?
- That are working in Correctional Industries, we average
- about 2,000 workers.
- Those are incarcerated individuals, correct? 10 Q
- Correct. 11 Α
- Overseeing them is about 430 staff? 12
- There were, but we had a significant layoff this year. 13 Α We
- have about 400 staff. 14
- 15 Why did you have a layoff?
- Our financials were -- our financials -- we are losing 16
- 17 money.
- Did you lay off the Washington workers or did you lay off 18
- the incarcerated workers? 19
- We did not lay off any incarcerated workers. We laid off 20
- staff. 21
- 22 You kept all the incarcerated workers?
- 23 The numbers have been different this last year due
- to COVID. Not by -- well, by choice of COVID. 24
- I think you testified that your assets remain about the 25 Q

- same as they were in 2017, correct? 1
- 2 I believe. We are at the end of the year. I haven't seen
- the numbers yet come out. 3
- You still have about \$55 million in assets? 4
- Again, I would be making the assumption, as I have not 5
- seen the financials for the end of the year yet this year. 6
- I'm sorry. I see you looking a few different directions. 7
- I want to make sure you are not receiving any communication.
- No, sorry. I am looking at this document. 9
- That's fine. It is always unique during Zoom. 10
- appreciate it. While we are on this page, at the bottom, do 11
- you see the average annualized cost of incarceration per 12
- inmate? 13
- I do. 14 Α
- 15 Q What is that amount?
- \$36,880. 16 Α
- 17 Is that still the same amount today?
- I don't know. Α 18
- If you could turn to the very next page. It is 19
- WA00011528. 20
- 1528? 21 Α
- In the middle, you'll see it says "McNeil Island 22
- 23 stewardship." Do you see that?
- Tell me again which page. 24 Α
- 25 Q WA00010164. At the bottom, 1014.

- 1 A Okay.
- 2 Q 64 at the top. There is two Bates numbers. I apologize.
- 3 A McNeil Island stewardship. I see that.
- 4 Q McNeil Island is where the Special Commitment Center is;
- 5 is that correct?
- 6 A That's correct.
- 7 Q Those people are not criminally held, correct?
- 8 A I don't -- I don't know anything about the Special
- 9 | Commitment Center.
- 10 Q Tell me about the people who work at McNeil Island, are
- 11 those offenders?
- 12 A The McNeil Island stewardship are incarcerated
- 13 individuals.
- 14 Q Where are they incarcerated?
- 15 A Cedar Creek Corrections Officer.
- 16 Q There is a Special Commitment Center on McNeil Island?
- 17 A There is, yes.
- 18 Q Why don't the people on McNeil Island get to do the job
- 19 that the people mentioned here are doing?
- MR. BERGER: Objection, foundation.
- THE COURT: The objection is sustained.
- 22 BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
- 23 Q Why isn't the SCC or Special Commitment Center included in
- 24 | Correctional Industries?
- 25 A They are not part of DOC.

```
Q
       Why are they not part of DOC?
1
```

- MS. CHIEN: Objection, foundation. 2
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 3
- Sorry. You can say you don't know. 4
- THE COURT: I think she can answer if she knows. 5
- THE WITNESS: I don't know. 6
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 7
- Is every correctional facility in the state that holds
- criminally held individuals eligible for participation in
- Correctional Industries? 10
- We do go through a screening process. They all can apply 11
- for Correctional Industries. 12
- Is there a facility or a prison or jail, whatever you want 13
- to call it, that cannot -- all of the people in their 14
- 15 categorically cannot participate in Correctional Industries?
- Like I said, they can all apply. 16
- 17 I think you testified earlier that SCC is not part of DOC,
- that's why you don't know about it? 18
- Special Commitment Center is not ran by DOC, no. 19
- The people there are not criminally held, correct? 20 Q
- Objection, foundation. 21 MS. CHIEN:
- 22 THE COURT: The objection is sustained.
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 23
- The people who come to McNeil Island where we have 24
- established there is a Special Commitment Center, what do 25

- they do? 1
- 2 So Class II workers, they work in our marine maintenance
- 3 department, they work on the operations team. They work in
- the diesel shop. 4
- 5 What is at McNeil Island, other than the Special
- Commitment Center? 6
- 7 CI's operations, which is where we are overseeing the
- maintenance of the island, our diesel shop. I think DOC does
- have a training site out there. Not real familiar with that.
- There is not a lot out there. 10
- You said it is your operations. Have you been out there? 11 Q
- I have. 12 Α
- Do you work out there? 13 Q
- Daily? 14 Α
- 15 Q Do you work out there regularly?
- No. 16 Α
- 17 Do you work out there periodically?
- I go out -- I have probably been there three times -- I 18 Α
- have probably been there two times in the last year. 19
- Are there residents of Washington who are not incarcerated 20 Q
- or detained out there that live there? 21
- 22 Say that one more time.
- 23 Are there residents of Washington who are not held in
- state custody who live there? 24
- 25 Α I don't believe so.

Sytsma - Direct

```
Q
        Can you look at Exhibit 55 for me.
 1
 2
             MR. BERGER: A-55.
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Yes, sorry, Adam. At some point, I'll
 3
 4
    get better.
             THE WITNESS: I see it.
 5
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
 6
 7
    Q
        Do you know what this is?
        Correctional Industries fact sheet.
        That's created by Correctional Industries?
        Yes.
10
    Α
        You are the Director of Correctional Industries?
11
        I am.
12
    Α
             MS. SCHEFFEY: I offer to admit A-55.
13
             MS. CHIEN:
                         No objection.
14
15
             MR. BERGER: No objection.
             THE COURT: A-55 may be admitted.
16
17
                      (Exhibit A-55 was admitted.)
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
18
        On the second page of this document, you see a number
19
    3,780,075?
20
        Yes.
2.1
    Α
        What is that number?
22
23
        Total number of hours that are incarcerated individuals
    programmed within CI.
24
        Number of hours worked by Class II participants in the CI?
25
    Q
```

- 1 A Correct.
- 2 Q Is that number, barring COVID, usually about the same?
- 3 A I would only have to speculate.
- 4 Q You have worked at CI since 2019, correct?
- 5 A Correct.
- 6 Q In 2019, was the number about the same as this number?
- $7 \mid A \mid Off the top of my head -- I would have to look.$
- 8 Q Does that number include Class III work?
- 9 A No.
- 10 | Q About what percentage of people who are incarcerated are
- 11 in Class II work?
- 12 A We will -- we have about -- well, we average 2,000 workers
- a year, given the average daily population. Last year,
- 14 | probably the average daily population or two years ago was
- 15 around 17,000. So 2,000 of those.
- 16 Q 2,000 out of 17,000 participate in Correctional Industries
- 17 | Class II work, correct?
- 18 | A Correct.
- 19 Q Are the remainder eligible for Class III work?
- 20 A Again, I would speculate that they go through a process.
- 21 | Class II is voluntary. I don't believe Class III is
- 22 voluntary. I would assume, yes.
- 23 Q Do you know if your Class II workers also work in Class
- 24 III work?
- 25 A No. They may have at some point, but they wouldn't do it

```
1 at the same time.
```

- 2 Q They don't do it simultaneously?
- 3 A Correct.
- 4 Q Class III work is done by some group other than those
- 5 2,000 people?
- 6 A Correct.
- 7 | Q Fair to say this three million hours number doesn't
- 8 represent all the work done by inmates in DOC, correct?
- 9 A Correct.
- 10 Q We can take the exhibit down. We talked about the
- 11 products that CI makes. I want to talk about who CI sells
- 12 to. Organizations in the State of Washington, certain ones
- are required to purchase from CI if it is cheaper than other
- 14 | places, correct?
- 15 A State agencies are required to purchase from CI.
- 16 Q Is one of those agencies the University of Washington?
- 17 A The University of Washington is not -- I would have to
- 18 refresh my memory. I don't believe they are mandated.
- 19 Higher education, I don't believe is mandated to purchase.
- 20 Q What about the Attorney General's Office?
- 21 A State agencies are mandated to purchase from CI, unless
- 22 they seek exemptions.
- 23 | Q Explain to me how that works.
- 24 A How what works?
- 25 | Q How the mandated purchase works. You have a list of built

- in customers; is that right? 1
- State agencies purchasing furniture. Furniture is the 2
- biggest industry. They purchase from CI. Submit purchase 3
- orders and go through the process order process. 4
- You sell most of the furniture to state agencies around 5
- the state; is that correct? 6
- 7 I would say a good amount.
- That furniture used by all the state agencies is made by
- subminimum wage workers, correct?
- 10 Α Made by our incarcerate individuals.
- Because that's the law, you don't have to worry about 11
- those customers going away? 12
- They can seek out exemptions. 13
- They have to get a specific exemption before they cannot 14
- 15 purchase from you, correct?
- Correct. 16
- 17 How many organizations are you aware of that you know of
- that got that exemption? 18
- A I don't know the number off the top of my head. I have to 19
- look. 20
- Do you know any off the top of your head? 21
- I know there have been exemptions, but I couldn't tell you 22
- which agency. 23
- Correctional Industries also partners with private 24
- industries, correct? 25

```
They have -- did you say with private industries?
   Α
1
```

- 2 Yes, private industries. You provide workers to private
- companies, correct? 3
- Well, I believe you are referring to Class I industries. 4
- I am just asking generally if Correctional Industries --5 Q
- if you agree that Correctional Industries provides workers to 6
- private industry? 7
- We currently do not.
- Why don't you look at Exhibit 44.
- MR. BERGER: A-44. 10
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 11
- At the top it says "food services program." Does this 12
- describe a Class II program or Class III? 13
- Food service falls under both. 14 Α
- 15 Can you take a look at this document and see if it
- describes a Class II program? 16
- 17 Α Little of both, Class II and III.
- Are you familiar with documents like this? 18 Q
- Α I am. 19
- Do you have any reason to believe this document isn't a 20
- Department of Corrections food services program for Class II 21
- and III workers? 22
- 23 Α No.
- THE COURT: I offer Exhibit A-44 for admission. 24
- MS. CHIEN: No objection. 25

```
MR. BERGER:
                          No objection.
 1
 2
             THE COURT: A-44 may be admitted.
 3
            (Exhibit A-44 was admitted.)
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
 4
 5
        If you can go to the second page of the document which is
    WA0009925.
 6
 7
        All right.
        Talks about food service operations that will be
     supervised by full-time employees who are experienced in food
     service management. Does that describe Class II work in CI?
10
        It would describe both Class II and Class III.
11
        I am trying to be cognizant of your distinction and not
12
    ask you about Class III. My questions are about Class II,
13
     for the rest of this document. About how many food service
14
15
     staff do you have compared to incarcerated individuals who
    are working in food service?
16
17
        I would be guessing to tell you an exact number.
        What is the approximate ratio, 50/50, higher, lower?
18
        I don't know. I couldn't tell you.
19
        In here, it talks about offenders being given 20 minutes
20
    Q
    of dining time for each meal. Do you see that?
21
22
    Α
        Yep.
23
        People who volunteer to work in the kitchen in CI, they
    get a meal break in the middle of their shift; is that right?
24
25
    Α
        They do.
```

- Q Do they eat the food they are preparing? 1
- Α They do. 2
- Is that the same food that is provided to incarcerated 3 Q
- individuals across the state? 4
- 5 Α Same menu, yes.
- Can anyone else buy that food? 6 Q
- Some facilities I know do have staff -- staff kitchens. 7
- There may be some variations. I am not certain.
- Can government agencies buy that food? 9
- 10 Yes. We have jails that we contract with for food.
- Explain to me how that works. Is there a big kitchen and 11 Q
- you are shipping it out in an inmates' facility? 12
- We have food service, food service programs, and 13
- distribution, which is really different. Food distribution 14
- 15 makes and packages meals. Could be frozen meals which those
- are what we sell to jails. 16
- 17 Q Do you sell those to federal contractors?
- I am not sure of all of our contracts. 18 Α
- Are you allowed to sell those to government contractors? Q 19
- 20 To government agencies. Α
- 21 () What about entities that contract with the government?
- 22 Could you give me an example?
- Air Mark, if they are going to provide services to one of 23
- your jail facilities, you could sell the meals to them, 24
- correct? 25

- I would have to check on that. Α 1
- Sitting here today, do you know of any reason why you 2
- 3 couldn't sell to a government contractor?
- I can't answer that. I would have to seek clarification 4
- 5 on that.
- I understand you would have to seek clarification. 6
- Sitting here today, do you know any reason you could not sell 7
- to a government contractor?
- Well, I really -- if I had to answer that, I would say no 9
- 10 today until I could check on it.
- CI sells these meals to jails across the state to provide 11
- meals to their detained individuals, correct? 12
- Yeah, I know there are contracts, yes. 13
- CI earns revenue from those sales? 14 Q
- 15 Α We earn income.
- Those meals are made with subminimum wage work, correct? 16 Q
- 17 They are made, yes, with our incarcerated workers. Α
- If you will look at WA0009926 are the last four. Do you 18
- see the section that says "purchasing"? 19
- 20 Α Yes.
- Purchases will be made in compliance with RCW 43.19. What 21
- 22 does that mean to you?
- Well, it means the purchases need to be in compliance with 23
- that RCW. 24
- 25 Q Do you know what that RCW says?

- A I don't know that off the top of my head. I would have to
- 2 pull the RCW.
- 3 | Q When CI makes purchases, do you have any restrictions on
- 4 | who you can buy things from?
- 5 A Well, we do a lot of things through -- I mean, we have to
- 6 go through the rules of Department of Enterprise Services. I
- 7 know we have contracts, and then I don't know the specific
- 8 restrictions. I would need to meet with our -- my AD in the
- 9 area.
- 10 Q Do you know if that directs you to buy from other
- 11 government agencies or anything like that?
- 12 A No, I am not aware.
- 13 | Q Could you pull up Exhibit A-047, A-47? Do you recognize
- 14 this?
- 15 A No, I don't recognize this. I have seen this before, but
- 16 | it is not something we use today.
- 17 | Q Do you know if it was used in the past?
- 18 A Well, the only thing I can say is I see this document. I
- 19 don't really. I must assume.
- 20 Q At the top it says "correctional industry quarterly detail
- 21 statement."
- 22 A I see that.
- 23 Q What is a quarterly detail statement created by CI?
- 24 A We don't. This isn't a document of CI.
- 25 | Q CI doesn't create quarterly detail statements?

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Sytsma - Direct
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```
Not similar to this.
    Α
1
```

- 2 Do you know why the State would have produced it in this format? 3
- MS. CHIEN: Objection. 4
- THE WITNESS: No, I don't. 5
- MS. CHIEN: Go ahead. 6 Sorry.
- THE WITNESS: This statement, as I look at it, is all 7
- about inmates, inmate counts. I don't know what that 8
- document is.
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 10
- Do you track how many people work as barbers as part of 11
- Correctional Industries? 12
- No. 13 Α
- Do you track how many people work as clerks as part of 14
- Correctional Industries? 15
- For Class II clerks, each general manager within their 16
- 17 facility tracks their incarcerated workers.
- Do you track how many people work as custodians for 18
- Correctional Industries? 19
- We don't have custodians. 20
- MS. SCHEFFEY: Can I make a record this was provided 21
- by the State as something that is from Correctional 22
- 23 Industries? I am not sure what it is for. I would like to
- make that record. The State produced this as a document from 24
- Correctional Industries. 25

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Sytsma - Direct
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- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 1
- Do you have barbers in Correctional Industries? 2
- 3 Α No.
- Do you know if Class III has barbers? 4
- I believe that is where the barbers fall is Class III. 5 Α
- Q That would be -- if they are in Class III, that would be 6
- subminimum wage work, correct? 7
- That would be under the Class III gratuity scale, yes.
- Class III gratuity scale, to be clear, is less than 9
- minimum wage, correct? 10
- Α Correct. 11
- Significantly less than minimum wage, right? 12
- Yes. 13 Α
- I am assuming it is the same thing. Why don't you look at 14
- 15 Exhibit 48. Let me know if that is something you would do.
- MR. BERGER: A-48. 16
- 17 MS. SCHEFFEY: A-48. Yeah. Sorry.
- THE WITNESS: I am not familiar with this Class III 18
- report. 19
- BY MS. SCHEFFEY: 20
- Are there pretrial detainees who are allowed to work in 21
- Correctional Industries? 22
- 23 We don't have detainees. Those working in CI are
- incarcerated. 24
- In CI, do you know about individuals who are held on a 25 Q

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Sytsma - Direct
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```
1 detainer?
```

- 2 A No.
- 3 | Q Can you look at Exhibit 22 again.
- 4 THE COURT: A-22?
- 5 MS. SCHEFFEY: A-22, yes. Sorry, Your Honor.
- 6 BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
- $7 \mid Q \mid I \text{ will direct you to a page.}$ At the bottom, it says 48.
- 8 | It is 11547. Are you on that page?
- 9 A I am.
- 10 Q Does that refresh your recollection as to whether people
- 11 | are held under a detainer?
- 12 A In my role, I am not familiar with detainers.
- 13 | Q Are you familiar with the Department of Corrections
- 14 holding people for immigrations after their sentence is done?
- 15 A No, I am not familiar with that.
- 16 Q You testified earlier you have had 20 years plus
- experience in Department of Corrections; is that right?
- 18 A That is correct.
- 19 Q Do you know anything about Yakima County Jail?
- 20 A I am familiar with Yakima County Jail.
- 21 | Q Are you aware the State has an agreement with the federal
- 22 government to hold ICE detainees at Yakima County?
- MS. CHIEN: Objection, assuming facts not in
- 24 evidence.
- THE COURT: She may answer.

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Sytsma - Direct
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THE WITNESS:
 1
                            No.
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
 2
        Does Yakima County have any of the work programs we have
 3
    Q
    discussed today?
 4
              No CI work. No Class II program.
 5
        No.
    Q
        Does Yakima County Jail have Class III work programs?
 6
        I don't know.
 7
    Α
        Didn't you testify earlier today that every jail or county
    or local in the state of Washington offers a work program?
                           Objection, misstates testimony.
10
             MR. BERGER:
             THE COURT:
                          Sustained.
11
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
12
        Are you aware of any jail in the state of Washington that
13
    does not offer a work program?
14
        I don't know about jails.
15
        What about prison?
16
        Our 12 facility -- DOC facilities offer programs.
17
        You are not aware of any reason sitting here today why a
18
    federal contractor couldn't buy meals from Correctional
19
     Industries and use them in their own detention facility,
20
    correct?
21
                           Objection, asked and answered.
22
             MR. BERGER:
23
             THE COURT: Double negative in there somewhere.
    Rephrase the question.
24
```

```
BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
1
```

- Are you familiar with the Correctional Industries statute? 2
- With the Correctional Industries statute? 3
- Yeah. Q 4
- I have read through it. 5 Α
- Are you familiar with the WAC for the Correctional 6 Q
- Industries? 7
- I have read through them.
- Do those regulations tell you who you can and cannot sell
- to from Correctional Industries? 10
- Α They do. 11
- If you were to look at that law, would it refresh your 12
- recollection about who can buy from Correctional Industries? 13
- Yeah. As I mentioned, we sell to other state agencies, 14 Α
- 15 non-profits, tribe.
- MS. SCHEFFEY: Can we get a copy of that in front of 16
- 17 her to refresh her recollection?
- MS. CHIEN: Tell me the statute. 18
- MS. SCHEFFEY: Chapter 137-80 of the WAC. 19
- 20 MS. CHIEN: Are you talking about the regulation?
- THE COURT: That's not a statute. That's a 21
- 22 regulation.
- MS. SCHEFFEY: She said she was familiar with the 23
- WAC. Is someone over there emailing it? 24
- MS. CHIEN: Can you tell us what section of the 25

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Sytsma - Direct
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```
regulation you are referring to?
 1
 2
             MS. SCHEFFEY: She said it would refresh her
    recollection. I was going to give her the whole section so
 3
    she can look at it.
 4
 5
             MS. CHIEN: 137-80?
             MS. SCHEFFEY: There is the purpose. You want me
 6
    direct her to --
 7
             MS. CHIEN: It will take us a very long time to print
 8
    out the entire thing. We are trying to get you to tell us
 9
    which chapter you are referring to.
10
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Section called sale of goods, that is
11
    relevant. 137-80-40, sale of goods.
12
             MS. CHIEN: I will print it now.
13
             MS. SCHEFFEY: I will tell you the RCW, 72.01.090.
14
15
             THE COURT: Are we going to have a question for the
    witness?
16
17
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Yes, Your Honor.
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
18
        If the statute said you can sell to a private contractor
19
    as long as they are serving a government, would that be
20
    accurate?
21
             MR. BERGER: Object to form. Assumes facts not in
22
23
    evidence.
             MS. SCHEFFEY: That's why I am trying to refresh her
24
```

recollection, Your Honor.

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Sytsma - Direct
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THE COURT: You are asking her if the law as you
 1
 2
    paraphrased it is accurate. The objection is sustained.
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Yes, Your Honor, that's why the
 3
    question pending before -- this is easy in open court when
 4
    you can hand someone the document. The question before is
 5
    whether the law would refresh her recollection. She said
 6
 7
    yes. That's what I am trying to get to her.
        Marsha, I am emailing you something to print for the
 8
              I will use it for impeachment or to refresh her
 9
    recollection or pull up on her screen.
10
             MS. CHIEN: We just found it. We are giving her
11
    WAC -- the WAC 137-80-040.
12
             THE COURT: Someone should explain to the jury that
13
    the Revised Code of Washington is commonly referred to as
14
15
          That is the law as passed by the state legislature with
    the approval of the governor. That is the law of the State
16
17
    of Washington. The Washington Administrative Code is made up
    of administrative regulations adopted by various agencies in
18
    order to implement the laws passed by the legislature.
19
                                                             If I
20
    am in error, counsel, you can correct me now.
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Does the witness have in front of you
21
    72-09
22
23
             MS. CHIEN: No, we are having a hard time keeping up.
             MS. SCHEFFEY: Please print that.
```

MR. BERGER: Can you repeat the code section?

24

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MS. SCHEFFEY: 72.09.100. If the witness would let
 1
 2
    me know when she has 72.09.100 or if she can find it in the
    WAC.
 3
    BY MS. SCHEFFEY:
 4
        If you have 72.09.100 in front of you, I can direct you to
 5
    the section --
 6
        I don't have it in front of me.
 7
 8
             MS. CHIEN: We are printing it now.
             THE COURT: We have run out of time. It is almost
 9
    quitting time. We don't have time to have her look at it and
10
    then go to further questions. We will break for the evening
11
    and hopefully counsel can get your kit together on this for
12
    the witness before tomorrow morning at 9:00 where -- when I
13
    will ask the jurors to return. Come back tomorrow morning at
14
15
    9:00. We have one more day in this week. We are progressing
    along. I don't want to try and estimate how much longer
16
17
    before the first phase of the case will be put to you.
                                                             Ιt
    still will be awhile.
18
        Follow my instructions about recesses, please.
19
    think about the case when you are not in court. Keep your
20
    minds open on all issues. Come back tomorrow at 9:00 and we
21
22
    will continue with Ms. Sytsma at that time.
        Thank you very much, folks. You may be excused.
23
      (The following occurred outside the presence of the jury.)
24
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25

THE COURT:

Counsel, I was perhaps naive in my

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expectations. I thought that you had -- part of your
 1
 2
    obligation was to have the exhibits you were going to use on
    cross-examination ready and available for the witnesses.
 3
                                                                Ι
    don't know. Maybe, I guess I am wrong because that has not
 4
    been the case so far. You are burning a lot of your time up
 5
 6
    looking for exhibits. I would hope you would think ahead and
 7
    plan ahead for examination a little more carefully.
                                                          I know
 8
    this is asking you to do stuff that I don't know how to do so
 9
    it may be -- it is beyond my knowledge. It may be beyond
    yours, too. I don't know. We moved awful slow today.
10
        Okay.
               See you in the morning.
11
                     (The proceedings adjourned.)
12
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CERTIFICATE I certify that the foregoing is a correct transcript from the record of proceedings in the above-entitled matter. /s/ Angela Nicolavo ANGELA NICOLAVO COURT REPORTER